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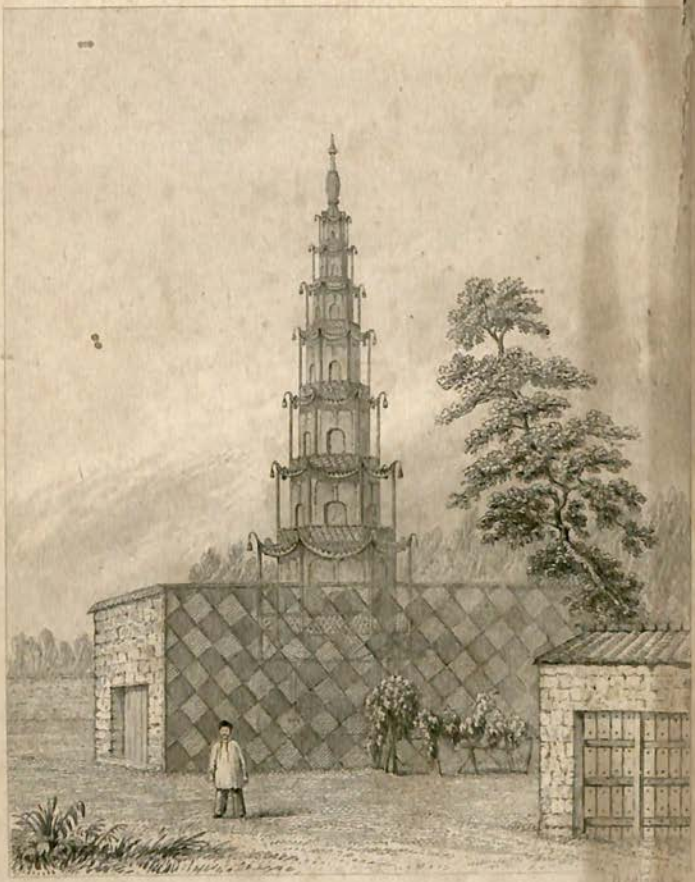

PAGODA NEAR SHANGHEA

London Longman & Co

WAE YÀNG JIN.

EIGHT MONTHS' JOURNAL

KEPT ON BOARD ONE OF HER MAJESTY'S SLOOPS OF WAR DURING VISITS TO

LOOCHOO, JAPAN, AND POOTOO,

32955

BY

ALFRED LAURENCE HALLORAN,
Master Royal Navy.

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PREFACE.

"Wae yàng jin;" Anglice, "The Foreign Travelling Man."*

THE following pages are extracted from a journal which the Author has been in the habit of keeping during a period of above thirty years' service in the Royal Navy; and, although a visit to the dominions of the Emperors of Japan and China has ceased to be regarded as a remarkable adventure, we still remain so little acquainted with the manners and ways of thinking of the people inhabiting

* Vide "Chinese Dialogues," by W. H. Medhurst, senior, p. 26.

these countries, as to render a narrative of a British sailor's friendly intercourse with them not superfluous. For eight months he resided among the inhabitants of these regions, under very favourable conditions for seeing them in the ordinary intercourse of civil life, and with his mind on the alert to observe so much that was new and strange. He was also, on several occasions, favoured with the assistance of gentlemen who, from their knowledge of the language, were both able and willing to explain to him matters that without such aid must have continued to be wrapped in obscurity.

In the following narrative there is no attempt to dive below the surface in describing or estimating the importance or meaning of what fell under the Author's notice. The events were simply recorded from day to day as they presented themselves; but it is hoped that, at a time when the current of public

attention begins to be directed towards these long secluded eastern nations, this simple record will not be found to be without its share of interest.

Polperro, Cornwall, November, 1856.

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JOURNAL

KEPT DURING

VISITS TO LOOCHOO, JAPAN, AND POOTOO.

CHAPTER I.

SHANGHAE, FEBRUARY, 1849.

THE 23rd day of February, 1849, was drawing to a close; the sunset-gun had been fired; the usual musters and inspections at evening quarters were over; and the officers of Her Britannic Majesty's sloop the "M——" were assembled in the gun-room round their mess-table, sipping their tea, and conversing on the prospect of a further stay at Shanghae, or the chances of a removal to some other part of the station, where their energies could be more actively employed, or, in sailors' parlance, where they might find something to keep the

devil out of their minds, when a stranger made his appearance on board.

He introduced himself by stating that his name was Clark, and that he commanded a ship called the "Elizabeth and Henry," of London, which vessel he had unfortunately run on shore in attempting to pass between the Arakirima Islands and Koomisang, in the Loochoo Group.

He had left the greater number of his crew on board of her, where she lay on an extensive coral reef, and had procured a passage for himself, a boat, and boat's crew in an American whaler, to the entrance of the Yang-tze-Kiang, from whence he had pulled in his boat to Shanghae. Having applied to the consul for assistance, he had been referred to our commander, who was lodging on shore, and who sent off a note by Mr. Clark to the first lieutenant, ordering every preparation to be made for proceeding to sea in the morning. The idea of any change from the monotony of Shanghae was exceedingly grateful to everyone on board, the more especially as there was a prospect of visiting a place so little known

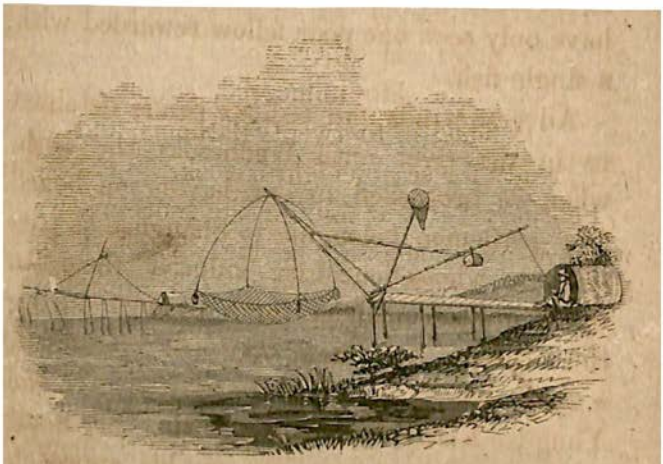
as Loochoo. In a few minutes all was hurry, bustle, and confusion. Though raining in torrents, the hands were turned up to bend sails, the forge and other stores got off from the shore, the ship unmoored, small bower cable shortened in to twenty fathoms, and we were ready for sea by eight o'clock.

February 24th, at four in the morning, we weighed and made sail, having Mr. Clark on board, whom we received into the gun-room mess. The wind being unfavourable, and the tide making against us, at 11 A.M. we were obliged to come to an anchor. Whilst detained here, I amused myself, as I had frequently done before, by watching the untiring patience of the poor Chinese fishermen.

These men construct a light framework of bamboo, which projects from the bank into the river. At the outer extremity are two arms, to the ends of which are lashed four canes, by which a rectangular net is extended at the corners, and to which four sinkers are secured.

At the inner end of his stage he builds a small hut, or rather gipsy tent, of mats, and

this during the fishing season is frequently his only habitation for weeks together. By a



Fishing Nets on the banks of the Woosung.

well-balanced and simple contrivance, he is enabled to lower this net into the water, or raise it again without moving out of his house, and this he does until he perceives a fish in it, when he has to walk out on the stage and secure his prize with a landing-net. The banks of the Woosung are crowded with these nets, which are continually in motion, either rising or descending, as they are never kept under

water above two or three minutes at a time. I have sometimes watched several of them for above an hour, and during that period of time have only seen one poor fellow rewarded with a single fish.

Adverse winds and tedious calms detained us in the river until Wednesday the 28th, when we proceeded to sea, having on board two gentlemen belonging to Shanghae as passengers, whose curiosity induced them to solicit our commander for a passage during the cruise. At 9 A.M. we passed Gutzlaff, a small solitary island at the entrance of the Yang-tse-Kiang, and which is the only landmark to guide the seaman on his approach to that dangerous river. Having sighted Peenchowa, we proceeded between that island and the Saddle group, and for the first time for nine months, found ourselves in the clear blue waters of the ocean. At 5 P.M. we passed the Bitt Rock, which is small, but always visible, and bears S.E. by S. $3\frac{1}{3}$ miles from the Stirrups; $19\frac{1}{2}$ miles S.E. by S. from this lies the Childer's Rock (according to Captain Kellet's survey), but we passed it at

the distance of about a quarter of a mile without seeing anything of it. On the 2nd of March, at about 9.30 P.M., we made the Island of Agenhu, the north-westernmost of the Loochoo group; and shortly after we saw Tusima, where we had a narrow escape from getting on shore through the strength and irregularity of the current. At 4 P.M. of the same day we rounded the south end of Koomisang, and anchored in forty fathoms water at 6 P.M., about two miles from the wrecked vessel; a boat soon came on board from her, and the mate informed us that she was still very sound, and might be got off.

On Saturday the 3rd, at 4 A.M., our boats were sent to the wreck to examine her state, and to save stores, &c.; and at 2 P.M. I went on board of her in order to take a series of angles for determining the positions of the shoals around her, which were not laid down in any chart, and of which no survey had ever been made.

I found the "Elizabeth and Henry" to be a fine new barque of 534 tons, well provided with every thing; and it was a melancholy

sight to view so serviceable a vessel on shore, without a chance of getting her off; for, notwithstanding the mate's report, she proved to have broken her back, and her main beam was in two pieces. The exposed position in which we were anchored rendered it necessary for us to use the utmost dispatch, as, in the event of the wind shifting, and blowing hard from the southward, we should have been placed in a most dangerous predicament; and we were in consequence obliged to work on the following day, which was Sunday. On that day (the 4th of the month) I went on board with our first lieutenant to save the stores, and to superintend the rigging of shears to get out the masts of the wreck, for which purpose I made use of the lower yards. Having completed my arrangements, I amused myself during the time that the boats were loading, by taking sketches of Koomisang and the adjacent shoals; after which we proceeded through a high cross sea and got on board to dinner at seven o'clock, wet, tired, and hungry. On the 5th we were again early at work, and commenced by getting out the mizen mast by

means of a light pair of shears, formed of the fore and main-topsail yards. We then hoisted out the mainmast by the larger shears constructed yesterday, and then transporting them forward we lifted the foremast. These spars were then formed into a raft and towed alongside of the brig, where they were lashed outside underneath the channels."

Everything portable having been removed from the wreck, together with a number of bulkheads and cabin fixtures, we gave up the idea of getting anything more out of her, and left her at 7 P. M. with the shears standing.

The following day, the wind not permitting us to sail, I was sent on board of her once more to save anything I could; and, after five hours' hard work, succeeded in getting the windlass (which was a very valuable one) into the long boat, and manned her with four of the bark's crew. The wind having shifted to the southward, blowing a fresh gale, with every appearance of bad weather, I was very anxious to get the boat off as quickly as possible, and therefore sent our pinnace to tow her; but the two boats had not left me an

hour before they cast off the tow-rope, and the long-boat becoming unmanageable in the short cross sea, she foundered with the windlass in her, but providentially her crew were picked up by the pinnace.

By this time the weather had become so bad that I was obliged to recall the pinnace; and at 3 P. M. embarked with my party in her, and finally bade adieu to the "Elizabeth and Henry." We had a large quantity of broken iron and other stores in the boat, more than the half of which I was obliged to heave overboard, and it was with much difficulty that after a pull of above four hours against a strong gale and through a most terrific sea, which I expected every moment would have swamped us, we at length succeeded in reaching our ship; but when we got alongside of her our danger was far from over, for she was pitching and rolling so heavily, that had it not been for the coolness and steadiness of the boat's crew the pinnace must have been knocked to pieces, and every soul lost, as the darkness would have prevented the possibility of saving life in such weather.

Wednesday, 7th. — The gale increasing rather than diminishing, at 4 A. M. we with great difficulty succeeded in hoisting the pinnace in-board; but our cutter was quickly swamped and stove, and soon became a confused mass of wreck, so that we were obliged to cut her adrift. On the day I first went on board the wreck, whilst Mr. Clark, our first lieutenant, and myself were at lunch, the Governor or Mandarin of Koomisang came on board, attended by an old man, who (as well as himself) understood a little English. And the captain of a war junk, who had been sent from Nappa-Kiang, to protect the property on board the "Elizabeth and Henry," accompanied him. They asked innumerable questions about the tonnage and armament of our ship and others in the British navy, and had brought a note from a Mr. Bethleen, a missionary at Nappa, addressed to our commander.

They earnestly begged us to take him away from among them, and gave us to understand that they knew his letter contained the same request. But in this they were deceived, for

he only wanted to hear from us some news of the European world, from which he had been entirely separated for above two years.

The weather being very wet, these officers were dressed in waterproof coats and south-westers, made of a kind of thick paper, exceedingly light, very tough, and quite impervious to water. The naval captain, by way of uniform, had on his coat between his shoulders a yellow mark in this form , also one of the same kind at the back of his cap. They were exceedingly anxious to know if we intended entirely to abandon the wreck, and at length said that they would take charge of her for a certain number of days or weeks, which we might fix on ourselves; but after which, if no one came to claim her, they should consider her the property of their own government. Indeed, they fully bore out the character for strict honesty which has been given them by the few Europeans who have had any communication with them. It is not their custom to accept a gift, and never if

they consider it intended as a return for any article received from them; for they then look upon the transaction in the light of trading, or having intercourse with foreigners, both of which are strictly prohibited by their laws. Indeed, so jealous are they on these points, that when our commander, who came on board the wreck during our conference, expressed his intention of going to Nappa-Kiang to return thanks to their sovereign for the kindness shown, not only to the crew of the "Elizabeth and Henry," but also to those of some other ships that had been wrecked on their islands, the Mandarin Governor of Koomisang cried, "No! no! no! you telle me send for Bettle," (meaning Mr. Bethleen, the missionary). "He come, you take him away, very good, that very good. Thank you, no good at all; you telle me, thank you. I telle the king, thank you. No good you go to Nappa-Kiang, you go home; that good, very good."

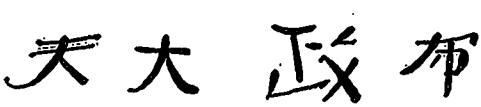
Before parting I was requested by this Mandarin to give him my name on a piece of paper, which I did, pronouncing each syllable for him, and which he wrote down in Japanese

characters. In return, he gave me his own name, and I wrote the sounds of the characters in English. He seemed much pleased when he found that I could pronounce his name, — Hitche-drah-Gitche, and amused himself for a considerable time in trying to call me by mine. He also, at my request, gave me the name of the reigning sovereign of Loochoo, Poo-chin-ta-hoo. The characters are very similar to the Chinese, and are read from right to left.

The Mandarin of Koomisang: —

Gitche drah - Hitche

This is the name of the King of Loochoo, who is a minor of about six or seven years of age: —



hoo - ta chin - Poo

To return to our proceedings on the 7th:

Having cut away the wreck of the cutter, we commenced weighing our anchor, and after four hours' most heavy heave we succeeded in bringing it to the bows, and proceeded to sea; the lower masts of the wreck being lashed outside and our decks loaded like those of a timber ship.

As we were making sail a canoe came alongside with another note from the missionary, which was rolled up in a bundle of leaves and lashed to the end of a stout bamboo cane; this the canoe-man hove on board of us as he would a lance; but of course we sent no reply, as we were ourselves proceeding to Nappa-Kiang. We sailed round the south end of the Arakirima group of islands, and up the passage between them and the great Loochoo. In Horsburgh's chart there are six of these islands laid down, with apparently clear passages between them; whereas they seemed to me to be much more numerous, and all the spaces between them to be rendered impassable by coral-reefs and breakers. There is a shoal laid down about midway between the east Arakirima island and the south-east end of

the great Loochoo; the breakers on which we perceived at a distance, on the starboard beam, passing to the westward of it.

At 6 P.M. we anchored under shelter of the Reef islands, on which Her Majesty's Sloop "Lyra" was very near being wrecked in the year 1816.

CHAPTER II.

LOOCHOO, MARCH, 1849.

THURSDAY, March 8th, we weighed at 8 A.M. and commenced working up for Nappa-Kiang roads, but owing to the strength of the tide we did not succeed in reaching the anchorage until 3 P.M.

Just at the back of the reefs we were boarded by Mr. Bethleen the missionary, whose awkward attempts to get up the ship's side, and evident state of alarm, afforded much amusement to our thoughtless youngsters.

Immediately after anchoring, some high servants (as they call themselves) of the Mandarin of Nappa came on board, to pay their respects and to bring his card; which was a piece of paper, about six inches in width by about eighteen in length, of a dark red colour, with his name and titles written from top to bottom in Chinese characters. Our commander

having provided himself at Shanghae with a number of similar tickets with his name, rank, &c., in the Chinese character, sent one on shore in return.

The persons above named were clothed in loose cotton dresses, of a great variety of colours and tasteful patterns, which appeared to have been printed by wooden blocks. Each had a handsome silk sash or girdle round his waist, of bright gaudy colours, from which were suspended a pen and ink case, a fan case, and tobacco pouch, the two last named very handsomely embroidered. Each also wore on his head the yellow hatchee-matchee, or turban, and carried his fan in his hand.

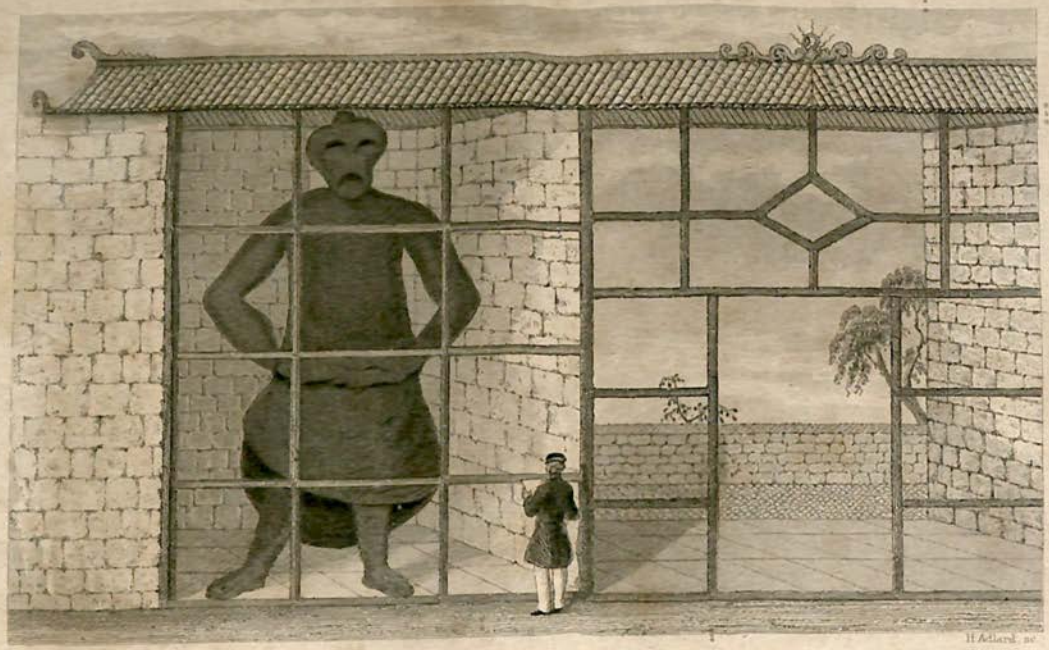
Shortly after they had left the ship, the commander, with our two passengers and myself, landed in the gig with Mr. Bethleen, and we pulled into the inner harbour between two forts. About three hundred yards within them we found a convenient landing-place formed of hewn stone, and connected with a neatly constructed mole.

We were met by some of the yellow-hatted gentry, and also by some with red turbans of

the same shape, and who, we were informed, held an inferior rank. Indeed I learned from the missionary that every grade of Government officer is distinguished by the colour of his cap.

The King alone wears white silk, the highest officers wear richly flowered silk, striped with gold and purple; the inferiors are arranged according to their rank, in the following order: first a plain dark purple, then flowered yellow, plain yellow, and then red, which last is lowest in degree.

We were conducted along a mole and over a bridge to a joss-house or temple, about a quarter of a mile from the landing-place, and the floor of this was entirely covered with matting. All the natives left their sandals at the door; but as it would have been very inconvenient for us to pull off our boots, they were obliged to be contented with our rubbing them well on the grass outside. All the Loochooans squatted down in the Turkish fashion, but seeing that we did not much admire that posture, they good-naturedly sent for chairs in several directions, and the messengers re-



H.Adlard. sc.

ANCIENT COLOSSAL IDOL, AT NAPPA KANG, LOOCHOO.

London. Longman & Co.

turned in a few minutes with eight or ten such seats of very neat construction.

After remaining here for a quarter of an hour, waiting for the appearance of the Governor, our captain determined to proceed to the missionary's house and receive him there, sending at the same time a message to the effect that he should not return to his ship until he (the Governor) had paid his respects.

We found Mr. Bethleen's family, consisting of a wife and three children, residing in a temple or josshouse, close outside of which was a police-station, where officers were kept day and night, nominally to protect him, but obviously to watch his proceedings; and so jealous were they of his making himself at all acquainted with the country, that they would not allow him to procure provisions or any other articles but through these spies of the Government; thus confining his family and himself as little better than prisoners. At the entrance of Mr. Bethleen's habitation were two colossal and very ancient idols, one on either side; they were formed of a stone resembling quartz, but are of so great an age

that all tradition of their original construction is lost, and their features obliterated. They appear, however, to be held in great veneration, as they are carefully preserved from the further effects of the weather by a sort of cage built over each of them. On passing through the gate guarded by these formidable giants, we found ourselves in front of a tolerably comfortable building, with a space enclosed before it in which an attempt had been made to cultivate a few flowers, so as to make it resemble an English garden.

In the centre stood a very ancient tree, which appeared to be a Portugal laurel, the top of which was flourishing and green while the trunk was so decayed that a wall had been partly built round it for its support.

Mrs. Bethleen was awaiting our approach in the verandah, with her three children; the eldest a girl of five years old, the second a boy of three, and the third an infant of about three months old. After an interval of half an hour, the great man we had been waiting for made his appearance.

He was about fifty years of age, dressed in

dark purple silk, with a hatchee-matchee on his head of the same colour. He was attended by about twenty servants bearing trays, which, without ceremony, they began to spread in Mr. Bethleen's room. Finding the table was not sufficiently large to hold the whole of them conveniently, they soon procured another small portable one, beautifully carved and varnished, and supported by gilt eagles' talons, and about fourteen inches high, which is the kind they use when sitting on their mats in the Turkish fashion.

The viands having been at last duly arranged, we were requested to do honour to the feast. I tasted most of the numerous dishes, but to describe them all would fill a moderate sized volume. One consisted of thin slices of pork, broiled and cut into the shape of a horse-shoe with the outer edge indented. Eggs boiled hard and cut into slices, formed another dish. Pig's liver appeared in many different forms, fried, grilled, roasted, stewed, &c. Broiled ground-nuts and roasted cocoas were also provided in plenty.

We were each supplied with a pair of chop-

sticks, and our awkward attempts to convey food to our mouths with such primitive instruments afforded not only much diversion to ourselves, but appeared greatly to amuse our Loochoo friends. Indeed, some of us would have fared as badly as the stork who dined with the fox, in the fable, had we not been provided with penknives, for Mr. Bethleen's supply of cutlery appeared to be exceedingly limited. Samshoo (a kind of arrack) was put on the table in small metal teapots, in a lukewarm state, and drank out of diminutive cups, which contained about as much as a tablespoon would hold. Finding that we did not patronise this beverage much (for its taste is anything but agreeable to an English palate), our entertainers soon consumed the whole of it in drinking to our health and prosperity. While the remains of the victuals were being removed, several other mandarins made their appearance; and among them was one who is mentioned in Captain Basil Hall's narrative of his visit to this place in H. M. Brig "Lyra," in the year 1816, for his aptitude in learning the English language. Although he had forgotten

much of this particular acquirement, and was now in the sixty-second year of his age, his activity and intelligence rendered him very useful to us as an interpreter.

After a long confabulation about the ceremonies to be observed between our commander and the Regent or Governor-General of the islands, on the article of exchanging visits, it was arranged that our captain should send his card at once, and himself call on the following morning, and that at 10 A. M. he should send a boat on shore, in which the Regent might proceed on board the brig to return his call.

Accordingly on the following morning, March 9th, the commander went on shore, paid his visit, and returned on board by 10 A.M. in order to receive his Royal Highness, who came off in our pinnace. He was attended by the prime minister, the provincial magistrate, or Governor of Nappa-Kiang, who had been our entertainer of yesterday, and by several of the mandarins, who were followed by a number of servants bearing presents, and by one in particular, who constantly remained close to his person, and carried a small but

handsome brass spitting-box, which, as his Highness was much troubled with a cough, came into almost constant requisition. Mr. Bethleen also came off to act as an interpreter.

The Regent was attired in very handsome robes of light blue flowered silk, with a purple and gold hatchee-matchee and a rich silk sash, from which hung a beautifully embroidered fan-case and an equally handsome tobacco-pouch. The Prime Minister, or Secretary of State, wore a similar dress of a light fawn colour, and in addition to the fan-case and tobacco-pouch he also wore at his girdle a gilded pen-and-ink-case of a very peculiar form. The old Governor appeared in the same purple dress we had seen him in yesterday.

The customary salutations were exchanged, which consisted in clasping the hands together before the chest as in prayer, then lifting them as high as the face, and immediately advancing them still clasped towards the breast of the person saluted, bowing the head forward, and repeating several times the words

Chin-Chin, and then the usual interchanges of presents were made.

Those given by our captain were, a spy-glass, and various specimens of English cotton, woollen and glass manufactures, &c. &c. Those received by him were, different kinds of Loochoo cotton and silk, both raw and manufactured, fans, pipes, and small japanned bowls. After these had been examined and accepted on deck, our visitors, the first lieutenant and myself, were invited into the captain's cabin to partake of a lunch, or tiffen, as it is called in the East. After a tolerable quantity of ham, tongue, and other edibles had been disposed of, together with a very fair proportion of drinkables, among which tea held a conspicuous place, the Secretary of State proceeded to business with all due gravity. After numerous chin-chins, during which all his countrymen except the Regent stood up, he took a case from one of the servants, and, with an appearance of great mystery, produced from it an envelope, from which he drew a letter or petition, addressed to the captain, about a foot in length and six inches in breadth,

folded alternately backward and forward, so that when opened it appeared in a zigzag form until it was flattened. The envelope was

Envelope. Letter.

coloured red, and opened at the end. Mr. Bethleen translated this curious document. Immediately after leaving the cabin I committed to paper what I could recollect of its contents, and, as near as my memory would serve me, the following was its meaning, though not, perhaps, conveyed in exactly the same words. It commenced thus:— "Sir, or High Foreign Mandarin, we pay you high compliments and great chin-chin.*

* At these words, "chin, chin," the Regent and his attendants "chin-chin'd" repeatedly, to signify that the petition was from himself in the name of the nation.

We bow ourselves most humbly before you, and are your very poor slaves.* We your slaves have a great petition to ask of you: we inhabit a very poor country, in a very far ocean, and are very poor. Some missionaries have come among us, and we have received them kindly, although it is against the ancient laws of high antiquity for any stranger to land in our very poor country. We have to provide them with food, and it is a great burthen. When a French ship was here we told them so, and they took their country missionaries away. But the English missionary still remains to the great inconvenience of our people and government. The whole time of our labourers is taken up with providing subsistence for the missionary, instead of working for their families; and the magistrates cannot attend to proper and wise

* At the mention also of being poor slaves, the Regent (though a man of nearly seventy years of age) attempted to prostrate himself before our commander, who of course prevented his doing so, though the old gentleman and his suite persisted in remaining on their knees for about two minutes.

government while they have to look after his welfare. This is not a good climate either, and he may get sick; therefore, for his health's sake, and our nation's comfort, we humbly chin-chin you and pray you to take him away." Our captain inquired whether the Government or people had any complaint to make with regard to the conduct of Mr. Bethleen, or any member of his family, and whether he or they had offended or injured any one: when they replied that they had no complaint to make, and declared that it was more on his account than their own that they wished him to go.

The captain then proceeded to reply verbally to their petitions, and his answer, as near as I can recollect, was to the following effect:—

First. "That any foreigner was at liberty to come to England and remain there as long as he pleased, provided he broke no laws and made no disturbance; that English subjects demanded and expected the same treatment wherever they went; and that neither the Queen of England, nor her people, acknowledged any laws of exclusion, ancient or modern,

made by any nation with whom she was at peace."

Secondly. "With respect to the poverty of the country, the English missionary was well provided with the means of purchasing every thing he wanted; and the captain insisted that he should be permitted to do so independently of Government spies; and also that his family and himself might be allowed to take such exercise about the country as their health required."

In the third place he said, that in his opinion the magistrates had far better attend to the affairs of their own people, without troubling themselves about Mr. Bethleen; who ought not to be meddled with unless he broke the laws.

And finally, that as to the health of the missionary and his family, if he chose to risk it that was his look-out and not theirs; and that little danger was to be apprehended on that score, as their beautiful island was famed for the healthiness of its climate.

He then said he should acquaint the Government of England with the kind conduct

of the Loochooans to the several crews of our vessels which had been wrecked there; and in the name of the Queen offered his best thanks, and good wishes for the health, prosperity, and long life of the young king, his royal highness the regent, and all the high officers then present.

Finding that there was no prospect of getting rid of the missionary, they soon took leave with an abundance of Chin-chining, and were landed in our pinnace under a salute of three guns.

As far as I could form an opinion from the short period of our stay at Loochoo, the inhabitants are a friendly, polite, and obliging race of people; naturally timid, and peaceable, though in some things shrewd, and cunning; evincing in their intercourse with strangers a great dread of foreign interference and innovation, a feeling which is constantly kept alive, and encouraged, by their whole system of government, which greatly resembles that of the Chinese, to which empire they pay a yearly tribute. At the same time their language, manners, and religious institutions

bear a much greater similitude to those of Japan, than to those of the nation to which they are immediately subject.

The Loochooans are only allowed to trade to two ports of the Japanese dominions, which are situated in the province of Sikoki; and are expected to send a large number of presents annually to ensure the continuance of this toleration; which is indeed to be regarded as a tribute, although not acknowledged as such.

The capital of Loochoo is built on the highest land in the island, and is distant about ten miles from Nappa-Kiang. It is known by the name of Samar or Soomar. Nappa-Kiang, the second capital and principal seaport, is a town of moderate size, in which nothing but the roofs of the houses are to be seen, for they are all enclosed in gardens, whose high walls form the sides of the broad, well-paved, and beautifully clean streets, which are kept constantly swept. Above the walls appeared the branches of fine well-grown evergreens and bushes; and a door being here and there accidentally left open, I obtained a glimpse of a neatly arranged garden, with broad gravelled

walks, and a pretty cottage-looking residence, embowered among luxuriant and flowering shrubs. Twice only had I the good fortune to catch a sight of some females, whose tasteful dresses, fine figures, bright eyes, and pretty faces, made me wish for a better acquaintance; and heartily disgusted me with the exclusive jealousy of their stupid government.

Male and female, high and low, rich and poor, all wear their hair made up into a peculiar kind of knot on the top of the head, through which are stuck two pins of gold, silver, or brass, according to the rank or means of the wearer. One of these pins has a star-shaped flower of five petals at the end. On our first arrival, an immense crowd were assembled to witness our landing; and the bright sun shining on these glittering ornaments produced a curious appearance, as if many hundreds of stars had descended from their spheres to perch upon the heads of these wondering Loochooans. No police or military were requisite to keep order among this large assembly, one wave of the fan by either of our mandarin conductors being sufficient to make

the whole mass fall back in an instant to the right and left.

These islands, which appear to be generally and well cultivated, are evidently of volcanic formation; and curiously formed basaltic pillars appear on most of the capes and smaller projecting points. One of the latter has obtained the name of Abbey Point, from the masses of stone on it greatly resembling the ruins of some ancient Gothic edifice. These islanders have very little intercourse with the rest of the world, for, with very few exceptions, their own country supplies all their wants. Wheat, Indian corn, tobacco, rice, millet, sweet potatoes, and a great variety of vegetables are raised by them; silk and cotton are produced in sufficient abundance; and I was informed that a small quantity of tea is cultivated. Their regular foreign trade is entirely confined to their annual voyages to Japan and China, from which latter country they import a quantity of sugar. I had no opportunity of obtaining any intelligence respecting their religion, except that it is a mixture of the Japanese and Chinese; Amidas and Fo being

equally worshipped by them. Their temples are very numerous, and I was informed by Mr. Bethleen that some of them are of very great antiquity.

During our stay, the weather was generally fine, and the average of the thermometer 63° Fahr. In this favoured climate the vegetable productions of the torrid and temperate zones flourish together in beautiful variety; the summits of the hills are crowned with the graceful pine, while the cocoa-nut and banana wave their long leaves along the margins of the bays.

The furthest extent of my peregrination was to the fort on Capstan Head. There I found several elder trees (*Sambucus nigra*), and was pleased to recognise the gorse or furze (*Ulex Europæus*), the scarlet pimpernel (*Anagallis arvensis*), the dandelion (*Leontodon taraxacum*), and a number of other common English plants. Loochoo, like most of the other islands in these seas, produces copper of a superior quality, and I believe silver and gold ores are also found. Fish abound among the shoals with which these islands are surrounded;

and on all the coral reefs large quantities of shell-fish are collected, which form a principal article of food. The coral itself is burned to make a cement for their buildings, and the walls of their temples are frequently ornamented with regularly cut pieces of madrepore.

Sea snakes are numerous in the bays and creeks, and their bite is exceedingly venomous.

CHAPTER III.

RETURN TO SHANGHAE. MARCH, 1849.

On Saturday the 10th, at 6 A.M., we weighed and proceeded to sea; passing to the northward of Agenhu, we shaped a course for the Barren Islands. The weather was exceedingly fine, the wind favourable, and the nights, illuminated by a moon but a day or two past the full, were particularly pleasant; so that although night-watching is an amusement that none but a moon-sick lover, or very young and embryo Nelson would volunteer for; yet when a poor fellow is obliged by duty to walk the deck every night for four hours together, the middle watch, or from 12 to 4 A.M., in such beautiful nights as these, is to be considered by far preferable to any other. He can then not only get what sailors term a snooze* before it commences,

* A short nap.

but has the prospect of a good sleep following it in the morning, when he will be lulled by the monotonous sound of those amusing implements the holy-stones * over his head; for however strange it may appear to a landsman, these grating instruments are to the sailor an excellent narcotic.

I love, when all are hush'd in sleep,
In midnight watch the deck to pace,
And o'er the waters of the deep
The vessel's sparkling wake to trace:
Or watch the ever rolling tide
Laving her long, dark, dripping side.

I love to see the porpoise play
In eddying circles 'neath the bow,
Amid the white and dashing spray
That flings its snow-wreaths o'er our prow.
While the pale moon's soft, silver light
Brightens each passing cloud of night.

I love to trace the Almighty's hand,
Who spread afar the rippling brine,
And bid the Heaven's wide arch expand
To meet its dim horizon line,
And ask his aid my soul to raise
In humble hope and fervent praise.

* Stones used for scrubbing the decks.

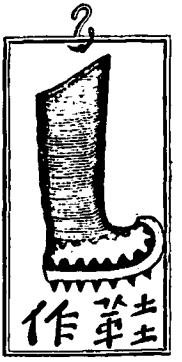
But although the poetic strain may be very well in the open ocean, there is very little time for it in these seas, where the rapidity and uncertainty of the currents, and the numerous hidden dangers, in addition to the many errors in the charts supplied, render the navigation critical and dangerous, and greatly increase the anxiety and responsibility of the officers of the watches, and still more so of the captain and the master of the ship. On the 13th of March, at 3·30 A.M., we made the East Saddle Island; at midnight of the 14th anchored abreast of Gutzlaff Island, at the entrance of the Yang-ste-Kiang, and on the following day proceeded to Woosung, where we anchored at 11·40 A.M. of the 16th. Here we remained until the 22nd, when we went up the river and moored again off Shanghae. We landed all the stores saved from the "Elizabeth and Henry" during the two following days; and these were shortly afterwards sold by auction; but instead of the salvage being paid, Mr. Clark raised some point of dispute, and refusing to abide by an arbitration, he obliged us to refer our case to the Admiralty Court

at home. About three or four hundred yards from where we lay moored, was the mouth of a small river that discharged itself into the Woosung. I could not discover what was the proper Chinese name for it, but it was always called by the English the Sow-chow creek, from its being a direct water communication to that city. Over this river, about a mile from its entrance, is a stone bridge, in the centre of which a wooden platform works on rollers, and can be hauled back to allow junks or masted boats to pass; these pay a small toll, which is dropped into a basket fastened to the end of a long bamboo, and is held out by the bridgemaster to receive it; no toll is demanded of passengers over the bridge: on the piers are several stone posts, to which offenders against the Chinese laws are frequently tied by their tails with their hands lashed behind them; a paper is pasted on the post above their heads, on which is written an account of their names, the places to which they belong, and the nature of the crimes they have committed.

Many are also exposed here and at other pub-

lic thoroughfares, decorated with the kangue, — a heavy, wooden collar, about six inches thick and three feet square, secured about the neck in such a manner that it is impossible for the culprit to feed or to free himself. Frequently of an evening I walked as far as this bridge, and as the road led through a rather populous village, inhabited by shipwrights, ropemakers, block and anchor smiths, &c., I had numerous opportunities of observing their modes of proceeding in these several employments. One lane, about two hundred yards in length, is composed entirely of shops, some of which I will attempt to describe. At the end through which I usually entered, on the right hand, was a corn mill, in a ricketty shed; and when I say it was worked by a half-starved ox, and much resembled the old-fashioned crushing mills used in the village cider pounds of Devonshire, I have given as clear a description of it as possible. The bolting is effected by means of square double sieves, worked by hand, and the waste of flour is very great. On the left-hand side of the street was, first, a boot and shoemaker's

shop, in which the coarse Chinese hobnailed boots are manufactured. Women were em-



ployed in quilting old rags together to stuff the soles, but the rougher part of the work was performed by men. On the sign was a likeness of a Chinese ploughman's boot, the nails being represented with conical-shaped heads, which project fully three quarters of an inch below the sole, so as to take fast hold on slippery ground. Next to the shoemaker's was a miserable hovel, inhabited by a large family, with a small table always before the door, on which fruit is exposed for sale. Oranges were piled up in fives and sixes, and

also several kinds of nuts peculiar to China, and a few half-ripe peaches, each little heap having a small bamboo tally with the price marked on it. One day when passing this way, feeling thirsty, I purchased half a dozen oranges, and the seller, a fine lad, about twelve years of age, held up both his hands, at the same time spreading his fingers as a sign that I must pay him ten cash, which amounted to not quite three farthings. I threw down about double his demand, and was about to walk on, when another lad of like age rushed from the opposite side of the road, and, snatching up the tally, began abusing the seller in loud and angry tones, signifying to me at the same time, in broken English, that the marks on the bamboo meant but five cash, and that the other boy was cheating me. My new and zealous friend was much displeased at my persisting in giving what I had at first put on the table; but, finding that I still walked away, he pursued me to the end of the street, begging for some cash for himself. At length, to get rid of his importunity, I took hold of him by the

tail, pulled his ears well, and then gave him a handful of coppers, with which he appeared more than satisfied, and started off grinning, and I dare say laughing in his sleeve at the folly of the Fanqui (foreign devil). On the right-hand side again (with the exception of a coffin maker, who carries on a large business in a corner shop at the farther end of the street) the buildings are inhabited by barbers, tea sellers, and the keepers of eating houses. The barbers not only shave their customers' heads, replait their tails, and pluck out their beards and moustachios (for no one is allowed to wear the latter ornament until he has become a grandfather), but they shampoo them, trim their nails, and clean their ears. Many of these barbers perambulate the streets, with a portable seat slung to their backs, which contains their tweezers, combs, razors, and other implements of their craft. A large brass bason also serves them as a bell to attract the attention of their customers; and as soon as one offers himself they commence their operations on the first convenient spot that is out of the way of

passengers. The tea shops are also gambling houses, where dominoes, cards, and dice strip many a poor Chinese of his hard-earned mace.

The eating houses are more worthy of notice. Hung up in the lower rooms are generally a number of smoked ducks, pigs, and hams, and even cats and dogs. A large earthenware oven is constantly at work, in which a light kind of dough cake is baked in oil; they look and smell very good, but I could never prevail upon myself to taste them.

Ranged on the counters are usually several large copper pans covered with coarse wet cloths, and on which are exposed for sale cakes of about a foot in diameter, and three or four inches in thickness, which exactly resemble the white curd of cheese before it is put into shape and pressed. For a long time I supposed them to be some preparation of milk, but I have since learned that they are made from a bean, similar to our horse bean, which is beat into a pulp, and after some other preparation is sold in the state above described; and from the number of

persons I have seen purchasing slices, I should suppose it to be a favourite article of food. After passing through one of these shops I ascended a flight of stairs, and found the rooms above furnished with neat and highly-varnished chairs and tables, at several of which parties of two or three Chinese were enjoying their chow-chow. Several of them, who appeared to be very respectable persons, invited me to partake of their fare; and one old gentleman in particular seemed so much hurt and annoyed at my declining, that I was obliged to sit down and taste some stewed shrimps, which was the only dish I liked to venture on.

During the whole time I sat at table, although we could not converse with each other, the old Chinaman was determined that he at least would have something to say, and he continued chin-chining and chattering for about ten minutes without ceasing. At length he permitted me to bow myself off, much regretting that I could not understand him, although greatly pleased with his friendly politeness. Passing into two other rooms I

found them all furnished alike, each being provided with a carved side-board, on which were arranged chop-sticks, pipes, and a number of saucers, some containing tobacco, and others a sweetish kind of vinegar, which is much used as a condiment. On the left-hand side of the street, again, the houses are of rather a superior construction, and are inhabited by mealmen, tailors, and sellers of Chinese wine and samshoo. These liquors are manufactured from rice; the first is a weaker spirit than the last, and is coloured like rum. The samshoo is of a pale straw colour, like whiskey, and is very strong. Both are exceedingly unpleasant to the smell and taste, and are made more so by being always drank in a raw and lukewarm state.

During our frequent and tedious detentions at Shanghae, we often amused ourselves by shooting in the neighbourhood. Pheasants are tolerably numerous, pigeons in plenty, and, in the cold weather, wild ducks, widgeons, and geese are to be shot in almost every creek. My usual excursion was about four or five miles along the south shore of the Soochow

Creek, to a small village surrounded with bamboo plantations, in which pigeons are in abundance. In this place I formed an acquaintance with two old men, who were brothers, and who owned and farmed about three or four hundred acres of land. One of them was sixty-two, the other sixty years of age, and they resided in the same house with their children and grandchildren.

Although we could only converse with them by signs, they always made my messmates and myself welcome, offering us tea, samshoo, rice, or whatever they thought we should like. Two of the grandchildren were fine boys of twelve or thirteen years of age, and I highly pleased them one day by giving them some engravings which I had torn from a book I carried with me for gun-wadding.

In reference to this plan of families living together, Mr. Davis, in his description of the Chinese empire, has the following remark:— "We have seen that, to a very limited extent, there is a law of primogeniture, inasmuch as the eldest son, who buys water at his father's

funeral, has a double portion.* More correctly speaking, perhaps, the eldest son may be said to hold the property in trust for all the younger brothers, over whom he has considerable authority, and who commonly live together and club their shares; by which means families in this over-peopled country are more easily subsisted than they would otherwise be, and every man's income made to go the furthest possible."

On the 15th of April Shanghae was enlivened by the appearance of a steam sloop-of-war, bearing the flag of the Admiral of the East India and China stations, who had lately suffered from an attack of apoplexy, and who, on the following day, took up his residence on shore. On the 16th, Shanghae Spring races were held, and both of our lieutenants and a midshipman from the steamer were among the riders; but though everything was done to make them go off well, the want of a band and the small number of the spectators made it but a dull affair. On the day following there was a

* "Buying water" is a peculiar ceremony observed at all Chinese funerals.

sailing-match of boats, dignified by the name of a regatta; but as all the boats entered, about eight in number, sailed together without regard to size or rig, the advantage was wholly in favour of the light fore-and-aft boats belonging to the merchants' clerks and other persons on shore. I sailed the brig's pinnace, which was the heaviest and largest boat of all, and therefore had the worst chance; but, as it fortunately happened to blow pretty strong, by dint of a press of canvass I succeeded in getting in third. On the 18th the last races took place; but the whole affair appeared to be but a miserable attempt at something intended to be very grand. At sunset of this day our little vessel became the flag-ship; and the steamer which had brought the Admiral left Shanghae the following morning. There can be no doubt that in a few years Shanghae will become the greatest emporium of foreign trade in China, for it is the principal seaport of the province of Kiangsu. But although its prospects are so promising, the city itself is but small, its walls being only about three miles in circuit, whilst those of

Ningpo are above five. The streets of Shanghae are dirty and confined, and in the hot months, August and September, when the thermometer is usually above 90°, it becomes exceedingly unhealthy. Shanghae is situated in a vast, fertile, alluvial plain, intersected in all directions by small rivers and creeks. The walls have six gates, and there is a promenade along the top of them; and on three sides they are surrounded with beautiful peach gardens, under almost every tree in which may be seen a coffin. The English have purchased from the Chinese Government the right of building on a space of ground between the city and the Sowchow Creek, and a tolerable sized European town has already sprung up, the houses having a very imposing appearance; but, being built of sunburnt brick by Chinese workmen, they seem inclined to fall down just as fast as they are reared.

On the 28th another man-of-war steam-sloop arrived, and the Admiral's flag was transferred to her on the following morning. On the 30th of April, at daylight, we weighed and proceeded down the river, reaching Woosung

the same evening. On the 1st of May we beat out over the bar, but unfortunately got on shore in stays, on the edge of the North Bank, and as the tide was falling, we found all our efforts to heave the brig off were unavailing; so that, after shoreing her with our spare top-masts, and laying out a bower anchor, we had nothing to do but to wait patiently for the next tide. Early on the following morning we were visited by a boat from the United States sloop-of-war the "Prebles." After giving the officer who came in her all the information he required relative to the entrance of Woo-sung, we recommenced heaving off, and by 9 A.M., were again working down the Yang-tse-Kiang.

CHAPTER IV.

NINGPO. MAY, 1849.

On the 4th of May we anchored off Chinhi, having exchanged numbers outside with Her Majesty's brig "Arab;" which vessel followed us into this place.

When the flood tide made in the afternoon, we had rather an interesting race up the river. At about 4 P.M. we took the ground, and the "Arab" passed us; at the same time hailing to know if we wanted assistance. But her triumph was of short duration; for before she had proceeded a quarter of a mile she ran on shore on the opposite bank. We at the same time hove off, and passed her again; after which we proceeded to Ningpo without further accident. All that night and the next day we were on the look-out for her, but she did not make her appearance until 8 A.M. of the

H.Adlard, sc.

CHINESE THEATRE IN A JOSS-HOUSE AT NINGPO

London Longman & Co

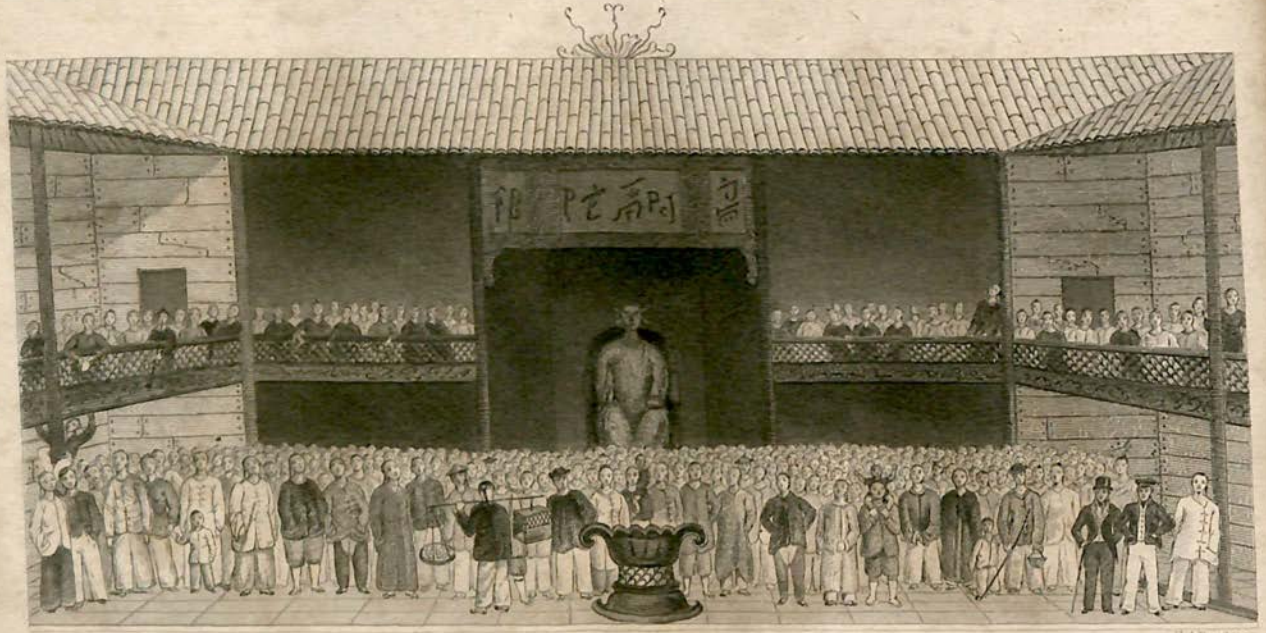
6th. Our usual anchorage when at Ningpo was even more dull than that of Shanghae. Nothing was to be seen but the city wall on one side, and a few half Chinese half European houses on the other. When at this place a few months before our present visit, I had the unpleasant duty of attending the funeral of one of our shipmates. We conveyed his body in a boat to a ground about two miles down the river; where the late consul Mr. Thom, and a few other English, had been buried; the boats all following with colours hoisted half mast high. The burial service was read by one of the resident missionaries, and three volleys of musketry were fired over the grave. Many Chinese were looking on with wonder at our proceedings, and inquired whether our firing was a chin-chin to Joss? This is a name they give to all their religious ceremonies, and even to the plays which are performed in their josshouses; several of which I had opportunities of witnessing while at Ningpo. When a mandarin or other person of wealth or consequence wishes to give an entertainment to his friends, besides providing a chow-

chow, or dinner, (the expense of which is sometimes enormous,) he usually hires one of the most famous bands of itinerant players that happens to be in the neighbourhood, orders some popular play, and for a small fee obtains the use of a josshouse. These josshouses are generally built with a square open court in the centre; and the principal gate is in the middle of the side nearest the street, with a smaller door sometimes arched on the top at each side. At about two-thirds the breadth of the square, and immediately opposite the principal entrance, is generally a very old iron urn or censer; in which at particular times, pieces of silvered paper are burned, in honour of some departed sage, or as an offering to Joss. It is remarkable, as showing the high antiquity of Chinese customs, that the vases in front of their ancient temples are very much like, both in shape and position, to some figures which appear in the representations of the ancient temples of Korsabad, as given by Bonomi in his work entitled "Nineveh and its Palaces," page 164. This fact was brought to my attention by my friend J. Couch, Esq.,

F. L. S., surgeon of Polperro, to whose kind and judicious assistance I am much indebted, while shaping a rough sea journal into something like a form that may, I hope, prove acceptable to the general reader. Bonomi supposes these vases to have been employed for holding water for purification. At the back of the square court there is usually an altar, on which are placed the images of the good and evil Joss, Xin and Quey; the former the representation of a very fat man with a round white face, and the latter exactly like him in feature and form, but jet-black. Sometimes also there is an image of Puzza, with her sixteen arms, together with other female deities. Immediately in front of these images are ranged a number of pewter vessels, of a great variety of shapes; and in them are a quantity of ashes, which accumulate from incense sticks that are kept constantly burning, and which as they are gradually consumed are replaced by others. On the two sides of the square are open piazzas, and the upper story of the josshouse is provided with seats for the spectators, like the boxes of an English theatre. Over the prin-

cipal gateway is the stage, which is without a curtain or scenery of any kind; and it has two doors at the back, which open into a small green-room, through the right-hand one of which the actors always make their appearance, and they constantly retire by the other. I several times ascended the stage during their performances. I also visited their green-room and examined their stage dresses, some of which have a very splendid appearance. Their false beards and moustachios are very well contrived, and can be put on or taken off the face in an instant.

Their plays have usually reference to some traditionary story of some one or other of their earliest emperors, and almost always combine the tragic and comic; but they are always accompanied by a most execrable concatenation of discordant sounds, which the celestials call music, produced by a band that occupies the back part of the stage behind the performers. Mr. Lay, in his "Chinese as they are," describes a kind of portable theatre, which is made use of when no more convenient accommodation can be procured. The scene



H.Allard sc.

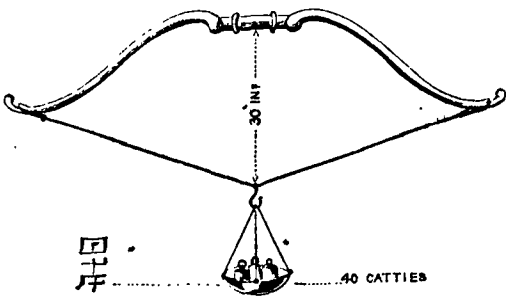
APPEARANCE OF A CHINESE JOSS AND THE AUDIENCE AS SEEN FROM THE STAGE

London Longman & C°

presented to the view of those on the stage is very curious, the boxes only being occupied by the friends of the person giving the entertainment, while the whole of the square area below is open to the public without any charge, and the number of upturned silly-looking Chinese faces, with their nearly bald heads and little eyes, have a curious appearance to the observer. During our frequent visits to Ningpo I had several rambles through the city, and was often favoured with the company of Dr. M'Carthy, an American medical missionary, who resided near the consulate. His knowledge of the Chinese language, and his acquaintance with many of their strange customs, rendered him a highly entertaining and useful companion; and I shall ever feel grateful to him for the unwearied patience with which he answered my numerous questions, and the constant anxiety he evinced to point out and explain every object of curiosity he thought would be interesting to me. On one occasion I went with him into a street inhabited exclusively by fletchers and bowyers (arrow and bow makers), two trades that in

ancient days were held in great repute in England. The bows are handsomely shaped, and are estimated and the price fixed according to the weight required to bend them, as a 二斤 twenty cattey, 三斤 thirty cattey, or 四斤 forty cattey bow, according to the respective weights that are required to draw them to the length of an arrow; the method of ascertaining which is, that the bow is strung and fastened against a wall, on which is marked a line of about thirty inches in length. Weights are then attached to the centre of the string until it is opened to the full extent of the line, and the bow is afterwards stamped with the characters representing the weight employed.

Thus,



Showing that a man requires to exert a strength equal to forty catties, or about 52 lbs. weight, to draw it; a cattey being about equal to 1 lb. 5·280 oz. The arrows are neatly made of a wood resembling ash, have three-sided iron heads, and are feathered with three wings.

During one of my rambles on shore with a messmate we amused ourselves by entering the various shops and watching the Chinese as they worked at their several trades. We saw needle-makers, ivory cutters, turners, shoe-makers, mat-makers, paper-stainers, cotton-dressers, blacksmiths, braziers, and a hundred other artizans, all at work. In China it does not appear to be, as in England, that particular branches of manufacture are principally confined to different towns, as cottons to Manchester, hardware to Sheffield, &c., but here you see every possible trade that can be mentioned almost, carried on in the length of their narrow, interminable streets. We afterwards ascended the famous Ningpo Pagoda, which is a hollow tower about one hundred and sixty-four feet in height, and divided into twelve

stories. We found the whole of these rooms perfectly empty except the lowest, in which were two half-rotten josses, and a dirty miserable priest or jossman, who looked nearly starved. He was, however, very civil; and after we had climbed to the top (from which there is a splendid view of the city), he very kindly travelled all the way down again to bring us up some water to drink, for which he appeared to consider himself well paid by six or eight cash, the whole together not being quite the value of an English halfpenny.

After resting ourselves in the upper story for about half-an-hour, we descended and had a look at it all round the outside. It seemed in a dilapidated condition, and I should suppose could not possibly stand many years longer. We afterwards passed a house where they appeared to be holding a religious ceremony of some sort, and on looking in at the door, an old woman, rather richly dressed, and with feet crushed to the most fashionable Chinese shape and dimensions, hobbled towards us, and with a long pipe in her hand made

signs for us to enter; on doing so we found ourselves in a small court, at one side of which was an enormous gilt idol, placed on an altar, and four dirty-looking priests, each wearing an old yellow buntin cassock. Their hair, instead of being plaited into a tail, like other Chinese, was worked into what sailors would call a double wall and crown knot on the top of the head. These fellows were all chaunting a psalm or hymn at the top of their voices, standing and kneeling at every alternate verse. To add to the din, each kept striking with a short black stick on a small gong, which was placed on the desk before him. Sometimes they walked with a slow pace round the altar, stopping at every three or four steps to kneel and bow down their heads. In fact, their ceremonies bore so close a resemblance to those of the Roman Catholics, that I could scarcely divest myself of the idea that they were performing a mass. In the court were some beautiful flowering shrubs in tubs; and on all sides were stretched lines of twine, to which were hung pieces of coloured paper, cut into the forms of chairs, horses, network,

and various other devices. One pattern, intended to imitate a child's frock and trowsers, was hung at regular intervals between the others. The old lady tried to explain to me the meaning of what was going forward, and jabbered away at a great rate for above half-an-hour; but as I did not understand one word, and our city guide, who called himself an interpreter, made confusion tenfold more confounded, we at length, having sipped a cup of tea, left the priests to their chanting and the lady to her speechifying, after bowing and chin-chining until I was quite tired.

I was afterwards informed that it is the custom of the Chinese to perform certain ceremonies yearly, in honour of their deceased relations, on which occasions it is usual to burn pieces of silvered or gilt paper, which is supposed by the action of the fire to be converted into real gold or silver, for the use of the defunct in the world of spirits. In the instance above named, the person mourned was a child, and the papers we saw were intended to be burned and metamorphosed into toys for the amusement of the youngster's spirit. We

afterwards visited some josshouses and a shop on the opposite (or, as it is called, the consulate) side of the river, first calling on the Chinese butcher who supplied us with beef, and who was known to us by the name of Mr. Buffalo; for almost all the Chinese with whom the English have any dealing are distinguished by nicknames of this sort, such being better remembered than their own celestial patronymics. In illustration of this, our bumboat man, or comprador, was known as Mr. Smiler, a name that had been given him in a certificate from some other ship on account of his having a perpetual grin on his face. We christened a waterman who attended us Mr. Chow-chow (that being the Chinese name for eating), from his scarcely ever being seen without his mouth being crammed full of rice or other food. Our tailor was Mr. Buckmaster, and our messenger was styled Jim Crow.

But to return to Buffalo, who was a man of some wealth. As soon as we entered his house he offered us, as usual, tea; and on our declining this, he handed to each of us a glass

of good iced milk, which we found highly refreshing. From his place we proceeded to a carpenter's shop, where we found the workmen at supper, and where we examined all their tools, and saw several large josses, or gods, they had lately made, and which were painted and gilt very smartly. These josses are not considered at all sacred until they have been consecrated by the priests, which ceremony is performed by making a square hole in the back of the idol, and placing in it a small silver heart rolled up in a piece of parchment, on which is written the name of the god it is designed to represent. The orifice is then closed, by letting in a piece of wood very neatly over it; and it is generally so well concealed, that no one who was unacquainted with this custom would suspect its existence. One old man had on a pair of enormous spectacles, the glasses of which were nearly two inches in diameter. They were fitted with a hinge on the bridge, and secured in their place before his eyes by two silk loops, which passed over his ears. He seemed highly amused at the glasses I wore, which were in comparison so

very small and lightly framed. He tried them on several times, and repeatedly inquired the price of them in England.

We next went to the shop of a mealman, who dealt in millet and rice, and here we found a winnowing machine, exactly like those used in England. These grains, when not used in a whole state, are not ground, but pounded in large mortars of granite, the pestles being made of the same stone, two men usually working together, while a third stirs up the meal. After watching them at work for some time, we went into the next shop, which belonged to a tea-dealer and silk-merchant, who immediately presented us with tea and pipes. These pipes were made entirely of brass, and the lower part is filled with water, a very small portion of tobacco being put into the little bowl, and two, or at most three, whiffs exhaust the whole of it. The tobacco has scarcely any taste, and the water takes away what little it has. The Chinese themselves usually eject the smoke through the nose.

A few days after this ramble I again entered the city, in company with Dr. M'Carthy, at

the south gate, which is called the "Salt Gate," or the "door of peace and righteousness;" although a more appropriate name would have been "the gate of dirt and wretchedness," it being the Billingsgate of Ningpo. The landing-place, fish-stalls, and steps are under the superintendence of a blind Chinaman, a police officer, who, notwithstanding his total deprivation of sight, contrives to keep the watermen in tolerable order and the landing clear.

The first place we visited on this day was a temple dedicated to the memory of Confucius; in which certain religious ceremonies are performed to his honour, at stated seasons of the year, and which answer to the masses that are celebrated in the chapels of the Roman Catholic Saints. I attempted to take a ground plan of the building, but found it so extensive and intricate, as to require more time than I could possibly spare for the purpose. It is divided into a great number of apartments, and covers a large space of ground. One part of this building is used as a college. The grand hall is approached through an extensive but much neglected garden, and over a handsomely carved

stone bridge of one arch, which spans a stagnant piece of water about forty feet in width, and then up a flight of massy stone steps. On each side of the entrance is the figure of an enormous lion, formed of granite; the hall itself is divided into three aisles, separated by rough wooden pillars, which support a vaulted roof of carved wood, gaudily painted with re-

presentations of dragons, lions, and cranes. Against the wall immediately opposite the

entrance of this hall is a small neat altar ; and on it an upright varnished board which is red, with black characters marked on it, and a carved and gilded frame, as above represented. On each side of the hall numbers of smaller tablets are erected to the memory of the earlier disciples of Confucius; their size decreasing according to the length of time that had elapsed between the death of Confucius and the births of the sages to whom they are inscribed. Those who learned immediately from the great teacher, or were born during his life, being held in higher honour than the others. After having examined all that we thought worth seeing in this temple, we proceeded onward and passed the official residence of Hein-Ling, the Tow-ti, or Governor of Ningpo. At the entrance of this building were two immense stone lions, also two flag-staffs, called by the Chinese joss-poles, which were decorated with a variety of flags and streamers. After looking into one or two shops, we called on a Chinese gentleman named

Kiang, which in English signifies Mr.

Rivers, who was a collector or rather farmer of the salt-tax. He received us very kindly and showed us over his house and gardens, which were to us great curiosities.

His residence consisted of—

1st. The entrance hall: A small room with a mud floor, two or three chairs and a joss in one corner. Here the old gentleman of the house was sitting smoking and conversing with a neighbour, who had just dropped in to have a little chat, or as the Chinese express it, to "sit in his gate."

2nd. An open court, through which we passed, into number

3rd. The principal receiving room. At one end was a dais, raised about eighteen inches from the floor, of polished wood, with mats and cushions for reclining on. Sofas, chairs, and small tables were placed round the sides of the room; and a very handsomely carved and inlaid table of a circular form in the centre. It was lighted by a large round window on the side opposite the dais, formed of oiled paper.

4th. A small garden, with a pond of water and rock-work.

5th. The principal bedroom, with two richly carved and gilt bedsteads, and chairs and tables to correspond.

6th. A verandah.

7th. A bedroom, with a number of birds in cages hung round the walls.

8th. A court with a tank for water. This court was entered through a passage (from No. 5. bedroom) formed of rock-work, with a low roof and ornamented with artificial stalactites.

9th. A temple with a joss and altar, on which were a number of tablets dedicated to the memory of the departed members of the Kiang family.

10th. The kitchen and offices.

11th. A garden with rock-work, flowers, and water.

12th. A similar garden.

13th. A neatly gravelled promenade.

14th. A garden with grottos and rock-work.

15th. A small bedroom.

16th. Curious masses of rock, brought from the sea-side, and cemented together in such a way as to appear quite natural; with several arched passages through them. Their interstices were filled with mould, in which were growing and flourishing some of the rarest and most beautiful flowers.

17th. A cave in which Mr. Kiang keeps an old stork (a bird held in great veneration by the Chinese), and which he knows to have been in his family one hundred and twenty years. When I saw it, it was moulting and nearly bare of feathers.

The only apartment above the ground floor is a loft extending over Nos. 3., 5. and 15., in which provisions and clothes are stowed away.

The whole of the house and gardens is comprised in a space not much exceeding a quarter of an acre, and I was informed by Dr. M'Carthy that it is a very good specimen of a Chinese city residence, the very smallest of which have a corner somewhere appropriated to flowers and rock-work. On the 7th of May we weighed

anchor, and proceeded down the Yung Kiang river, anchoring off Chinhea, on the evening of the 8th, after having experienced more than the usual difficulties of Chinese river navigation, from the immense number of junks which crowded every reach; and among which, notwithstanding our utmost care, we contrived to lose a kedge-anchor, and to carry away our main-boom and dolphin-striker. On the 9th we went to sea, and called off the snug little harbour of Lukong.

This place is situated at the north end of Kintang or Silver Island, and is protected from the open sea by a small island at the entrance named Ta-out-ze. It is a rendezvous for the opium traders, two or three vessels always lying there as stores for that drug. We were the first man-of-war that ever anchored inside the port, which we did on this occasion, in order to practise firing at a target which we erected on Ta-out-ze Island. On the 10th we exchanged colours with the United States sloop "Prebles," coming out of the Yang-tse-Kiang, and on the 13th reached

Shanghae, where we found Her Majesty's steam sloop "Fury" bearing the Admiral's Flag, and also the United States frigate "Plymouth."

CHAPTER V.

JAPAN. MAY AND JUNE.

On the 14th of May we took in provisions for four months, and received on board a Japanese lad named Ottokitchi (or the Happy Sound). He had been wrecked in a junk in the year 1832, and was afterwards taken to Jeddo in a vessel called the "Morison;" but being refused admittance into his own country, he had returned to China, and became a servant to one of the English merchants resident at Shanghae. Our commander having received orders to proceed to Japan, engaged him as an interpreter. We got clear of the Woosung river on the 19th, and took our departure from the Saddle Islands.

Sunday, May 20th, the morning was thick and hazy, with a drizzling rain. I had a very poor set of sights for the chronometers,

and a worse meridian altitude*; but to the best of my calculation we had experienced a current setting to the north-west, and were at noon about two hundred and forty-six miles from Cape Tschesmè, the south-western point of Japan. We saw many aquatic birds, and a considerable quantity of seaweed (*Sargassum vulgare*).

Monday, 21st. Thick foggy weather all day; very annoying for us who were all anxious to make discoveries; having had but a very uncertain latitude by double altitudes, and the weather continuing thick without a star to be seen, we hove-to that night until four o'clock in the morning, and then ran eastward thirty-six miles, when we made an island bearing S. by E. We now supposed ourselves to be in latitude 31° north; but after getting well in with the land found that the bearings on our very imperfect charts would not agree with our calculations in any way.

I fortunately this day obtained an altitude

* Observations of the sun for determining the ship's position.

of the sun so near noon as not possibly to be in error above two or three miles, which placed us in 31° 31′ N. latitude, and an hour's run farther proved its correctness. We were immediately obliged to haul up to the southward, and by sunset were round Cape Tschesmè, and jogging along the land under easy sail. The following day at 3 A.M., we passed close round a high cape with a lofty peak, named Cape Horner. Wednesday, the 23rd, proved a beautifully clear day, and as we ran along the land about seven or eight miles distant from the coast, we had a good opportunity of examining it. Its general character is high and mountainous, with long spurs running towards the sea, and with beautiful green valleys between them, but there was not a vestige of cultivation that we could perceive anywhere.

The summits of all the hills were fringed with trees at regular distances, but whether they had been planted in that way, or were the spontaneous productions of the soil, we had no means of ascertaining. In the afternoon some fishing boats came alongside, and

we succeeded in obtaining a few fish from them. The people we saw on board of them, unlike the Chinese, shave the top of their heads, and allowing the hair to grow round the sides, gather it up and pass it twice through a double metal ring on the crown. They were very shy, and we had much difficulty in persuading them to come alongside.

Thursday, 24th. No land in sight at daylight. Continued making the best of our way to the N.E. with a moderate breeze on the port quarter. In the afternoon several swallows (*Hirundo rustica*), were observed flying round the ship; for the last two days the air had been so loaded with moisture that every article was wet, even the books and papers contained in draws and desks.

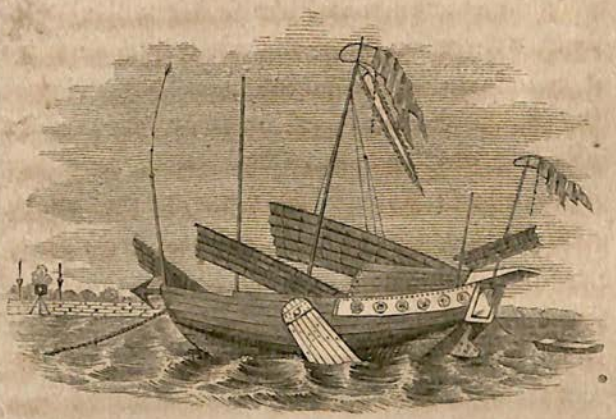
On the morning of the 25th, the barometer rose from 28·89 in. to 30·09 in., and a great alteration took place in the state of the atmosphere, which became suddenly clear, when every article was soon as unpleasantly dry as it had before been uncomfortably humid; so much so, that papers of all kinds crackled and became as stiff as parchment. On the after-

noon of the 27th the old moist weather returned again, and at 4 A.M. of the 28th we found ourselves off the entrance of Jeddo Bay. By the evening we were close to the volcanic island called Illa Vrais, which emits much smoke but no flame. The whole of that night, which was very dark, we were knocking about between that island and Cape Yzou, and on the morning of the 29th made Cape Segami at the entrance of the inner bay.

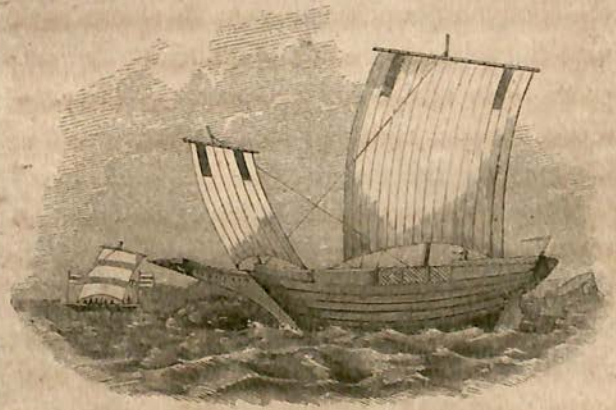
This cape is very easily recognised by two very remarkable clumps of trees, exactly resembling forts, for which I at first mistook them, and did not discover the deception until within four or five miles of the land.

The first thing that attracted our attention was a large number of junks running out to sea.

They appeared to be of a superior construction to the Chinese vessels, and of a shape more nearly resembling European ships. Most of them had only one mast placed very far aft or towards the stern, others had two masts, and each junk had some distinctive mark in her sails, which might be seen and



A Chinese Junk at anchor off the entrance of the Woosung River.



A Japanese Mandarin's Boat and Trading Junk running out of Yeddo Bay.

recognised at a considerable distance. At about 1 P.M. we were boarded by a number of mandarin boats, which were also rigged like the junks, and had on their large white sails one or two broad black bands, and one of them had a large black diamond or lozenge in the centre. They were manned by a great crowd of half-naked men, and were propelled by sculling. The persons who came on board called themselves mandarins, although I suspect they were but common soldiers; as Golowin states, that "the military profession is held in such great honour in Japan, that the common people, and even the merchants, give the soldiers the title of Sama, or Sir, and show them all possible respect. All the soldiers have a right to wear a sabre and a dagger, like the first officers of the Empire." Whatever their rank might have been, each of them wore the two swords, — one about three feet in length, and the other about eighteen inches. The handles and scabbards were variously ornamented, and many of them were encased in leather or cloth covers. We only saw a few inches of one of the blades, which

appeared highly burnished, and in excellent order. They have some superstitious objection to drawing them, except for actual service, and they say that a blade once out of its scabbard must never return until it has tasted blood. The chiefs were dressed in loose shirts and trowsers made of cotton, and over the former they wore a second kind of shirt made of a coloured muslin, with their arms, crest, or device wove into it in the centre of the back and on each shoulder. Their sleeves were large, and the lower part, being sewn up, is made use of as a pocket. Over the trowsers they wear a kind of petticoat of richly flowered silk stitched together between the legs, and fastened round the waist by a broad and handsome striped girdle.

They took notes of everything on board; measured the length, breadth, and depth of the brig; counted the number of guns, inquired their weight, as well as that of the shot they threw, and also the quantity of gunpowder required for each charge. All these particulars were written in a pocket-book carried in the left sleeve or in the girdle, to

which also each had suspended an ink-bottle, like those worn at Loochoo, as well as a wooden tally, on which was painted or carved the name of the wearer, his rank, and the principal duties of his office, and which seemed to answer the same purpose as the commissions of our naval and military officers, being produced to any person who might venture to question the holder's authority.

These tallies always bear the seal of the Emperor, or some other superior officer who is empowered to issue them. Some of these mandarins were more particular in their inquiries than others; but all, as far as they were able, made themselves acquainted with the use, size, weight, and construction of every article that came under their notice. As each mandarin had charge of some petty town or government in the neighbourhood, each individually took a note of the names of all the others he met on board, and by this means the Emperor would ascertain if any one of them had neglected his duty by not boarding the stranger, and making the proper inquiries; and by comparing their several reports he

would obtain a pretty correct idea of the subjects to which they referred.

Some of these officers remained on board until we anchored, sending five of their boats ahead to tow. We went much further up the bay than they approved of, passing one fort which mounted seventeen guns, and anchoring nearly abreast of a second which displayed twenty-four pieces of ordnance, and just opposite the little town of Ouragawa. At about 8 P.M. all the Japanese left the ship, after placing a guard of boats round her at the distance of about two hundred yards.

On our side we loaded our guns with grape and canister shot, placed sentries provided with ball cartridge at different parts of the vessel, and kept one watch at quarters all night. Each of the Japanese boats moored around us carried several immense lanterns; and the number of lights displayed being ranged in a circle, of which our brig was the centre, they produced a curious and pleasing effect, their reflection on the still surface of the water appearing like so many streams of fire diverging from the sides of our Liliputian

representative of the majesty of Old England. The next day, Wednesday, May 29th, at 6 A. M., we had about fifty boats alongside, each one containing a tun or more of water. Although we had enough on board for forty days, the mandarins insisted on our receiving it; so, after filling up all our tanks, casks, &c., we were obliged to pump the remainder on deck and let it run out through the scuppers. Our Commander sent his card (written in Japanese characters on red paper) to his Highness the Governor of Jeddo; but he returned it, saying it was against the law to hold communication with foreigners; that they would send us water, firewood, vegetables, and fowls, if we required them, and then, as we should have received all that we could desire, we must go away. In the afternoon the Commander, wishing me to sound the bay, mentioned the subject to the head mandarin, who had just come on board; and he, being jealous of my landing, insisted on going with me. Indeed, I was not sorry to have him, as I had to pull within the range of several forts, some of which would very probably have fired on the boat had not one of their own officers been in it.

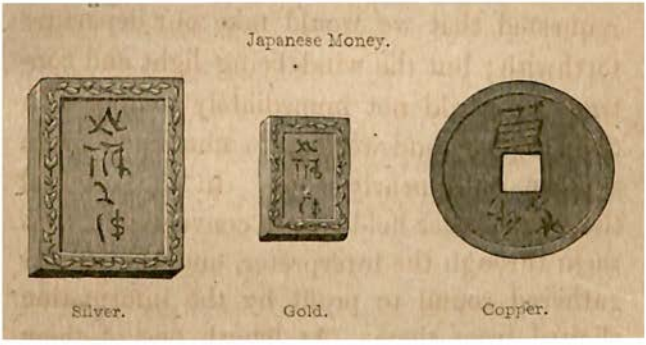
Accordingly I started at 1 P. M. in the second gig with my two-sworded companion and a well-armed crew, and attended by the interpreter Otto. I first landed on some rocks called Aska-Sima, or Seal Island, about a mile and a half from the ship, and procured a base line by measuring the angle subtended by the brig's mainmast. Here I took a round of angles and several sets of sights for determining the longitude, my worthy Mandarin friend looking on with undisguised wonder, and, I fancy, firmly believing that I was performing some diabolical act of conjuration which was to bring destruction to the whole of the Japanese empire.

Trembling with fear and alarm, he entreated me to return on board, assuring me, as well by signs as through the interpreter, that should the Emperor hear that he had sanctioned my proceedings he would infallibly lose his head. I continued, however, sounding and taking bearings until near sunset, and by the time I returned on board, at about 6 P.M., my poor companion was nearly frightened to death, lying along the stern sheets of

the boat sobbing and moaning most piteously. On reaching the deck he turned to me, and, as well as he could speak for tears, assured me that the Emperor would politely request him to rip up his own bowels, or send an invitation for his head without his body, as soon as we were gone; but after drinking a glass or two of cherry brandy he appeared to forget his troubles, and, I doubt not, will live many years to boast of having been the first Japanese mandarin who ever went out surveying. Thursday, May 31st, at 6 A.M., several mandarins came on board and earnestly requested that we would take our departure forthwith; but the wind being light and contrary we could not immediately comply with their request, and were quite unable to make a move until nearly noon. In the interval the Commander held a long conversation with them through the interpreter, and the officers gathered round to profit by the information elicited from them. At length one of them produced two pieces of Japanese money, which were the first we had seen; they were both parallelograms; one of silver, of about

the weight and thickness of a half-crown, the other of gold, rather heavier than a half-sovereign, and both said to be of the same value, namely sixteen mace, or five shillings and fourpence; showing that with the Japanese silver is nearly as precious as gold, the former being about double the value of English currency, and the latter only one-half. Each coin had a raised border of leaves, and the Emperor's name engraved in the centre.

On the reverse side was stamped the value of the coin and the maker's name. The mace above-mentioned consists of one hundred thin



copper coins, with a square hole in the middle, strung on a cord; and the value of the whole number is about fourpence. The separate

pieces are known by the name of cash, and their individual value may be expressed thus, $\frac{4d}{100}$ this coin, and the mace is also the common currency in China. At about $11^h\ 30^m$ we weighed and made sail; my surveying companion of yesterday assuring me that he was sorry that we were going, although he was very glad to get rid of us. He was much pleased at my giving him several cards with my name on them,—a piece of paper with European writing upon it being considered by these people as a great curiosity.

But we had not yet done with Jeddo Bay; for, instead of proceeding immediately to sea, we made several tacks across the Bay, sounding and taking bearings as we went, a circumstance that soon brought our jealous friends alongside of us again, and they continued to watch us closely until we were fairly out at sea.

The whole of the 1st of June we spent in boxing about between Cape Sigami and Cape Sousaki, sounding and making surveying observations. On the morning of the 2nd, the Commander and myself landed on the volcanic

island Illa Vrais, before mentioned; in order to take sets of sights for determining the longitude; but the weather proving very cloudy and unfavourable, we were unable to do so. We saw about fifty of the inhabitants, among whom was a jolly old jossman or priest, who was also their head schoolmaster. A young man who was dressed in very handsome silks, we were informed was a physician.

We climbed a high hill not far from the place where we landed, and obtained a fine and extensive view from its summit. I found the Hydrangia growing wild, also the dog-rose, and most of the plants that are common on the downs of England. We saw several well-cultivated gardens, and some fields of unripe barley; and in one spot we observed that the harvest had commenced.

We got on board the brig again at about half past 10 o'clock, and immediately proceeded, under the direction of Ottokitchi, our interpreter, to Simodi Bay, a beautiful little harbour near Cape Yzou. As we approached it from the eastward, we had some difficulty in finding the entrance; but it suddenly opened

upon us and displayed one of the most picturesque scenes I ever beheld. In the evening, when the ship was anchored and the sails furled, I landed with a party of hands for the purpose of hauling the sein. The mandarins who had boarded us immediately on our arrival, expostulated loudly against this proceeding, promising to bring us as much fish as we could make use of, if we would only refrain from landing; and they very earnestly represented the danger that their heads would be in if we persisted in doing so; but when they found that we persevered in our intention, they contented themselves with placing sentries all along the beach, to prevent our intruding further into the country, and were soon apparently much amused by our method of using the net, and many of them good-naturedly lent us a hand to haul it on shore.

As our time was limited, I was ordered by the Commander to commence a survey of the harbour on the day following, which was Sunday.

June 3d. I landed at about forty different points, taking all the necessary angles, bear-

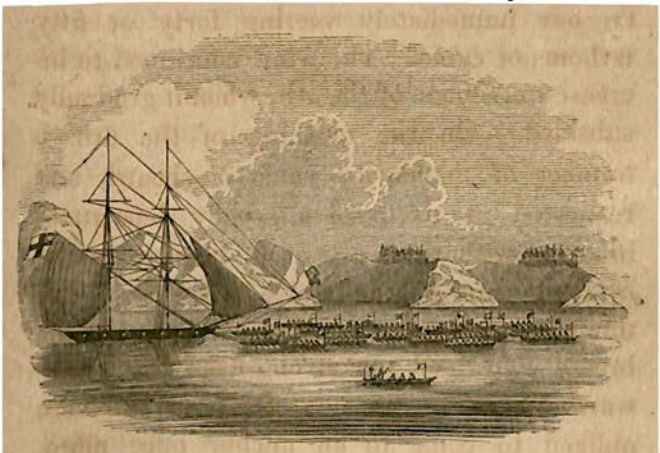
ings, and soundings. At first the mandarins watched me closely, but when they found that I did not go near the houses nor commit any depredations, they gradually relaxed their vigilance, and at last left me to myself. I visited several very pretty islets, on one of which, named Great Besi, is a small josshouse, peculiarly sacred to the God of the Sea. This island is curiously perforated, having in the very heart of it a large cave, which communicates with the water on both sides by naturally arched passages.

On the western side of the entrance of Simodi Bay I discovered a small but extremely beautiful cove, the opening to which is quite concealed by an island, and the sides of the surrounding hills are clothed with thick overhanging woods. To my suprise I found nine large junks moored in it snugly out of sight, and riding in from three to four fathoms water. The whole of the 4th I was similarly employed, and completed the survey by sunset.

Towards midnight it came on to blow very hard, and the bottom of the harbour being

composed of soft mud, formed of volcanic ashes, the brig drove, but brought up again on our immediately veering forty or fifty fathoms of cable. The wind continued to increase until noon of the 5th, when it gradually subsided. On the morning of the 6th, a number of mandarins came on board, and requested us to make a speedy departure; bringing with them a train of boats to assist in towing us out to sea. Accordingly, we unmoored and attempted to proceed, but the breeze continued too strong from the southward for us to do anything; so we were obliged to come to an anchor once more. Thursday, June 7th, we weighed at half-past 5 A.M., and having been taken in tow by fifty-six Japanese boats, we proceeded slowly out of the harbour. Each boat was propelled by sculls worked by from nine to thirteen men, and carried flags with various devices on them. One young mandarin, who appeared to hold high rank among them, kept sculling round the ship in a handsome light boat, marking time with his enormous fan, to regulate the motions of the scullers, and cheering them on when they flagged.

In about an hour they had towed us out of the harbour, and we immediately made sail



English Brig of War being towed out of Simodi Bay.

and stood out to sea. Hitherto our trip had been a very pleasant one, but we had now the prospect of a dead beat of above a thousand miles against an adverse current and a foul wind; and it was not until the 23rd that we made the Island of Tanaga Sima, having been employed sixteen days in traversing the same distance we had before ran over in six on the opposite direction.

CHAPTER VI.

JAPAN. JUNE.

While working through the group of small islands at the south-western extremity of Japan, we had to contend with a strong current running regularly to the eastward, at the rate of about one or one and a half miles per hour; and the weather being thick and hazy we saw little or nothing of the land. We reached Woosung on the 30th, and on the 2nd of July shifted our berth up the river to our old anchorage off Shanghae. My stay at Japan was too limited to allow me to obtain all the information I could have wished for on the subjects of the government of the country, its institutions, productions, or the manners and customs of its inhabitants.

One of the mandarins of Ouragawa, however, who had been at Nangasaki, and spoke a little English as well as Dutch, gave me

the following information, which agrees in many points with the statements made by the Russian officer, Golowin, in his "Narrative of a Two Years' Sojourn as a Prisoner" in this strange and interesting country. Japan is governed by two emperors jointly; the first being the Mikaddo, or Celestial Emperor, whose residence is in the spiritual capital, called Miako. His palace is a city in itself, which he seldom if ever quits, but passes his time in listless idleness among its beautiful gardens, murmuring fountains, and luxurious saloons. He is seldom troubled on state affairs, except when anything like a treaty is proposed with any foreign power, or a war is likely to be commenced. The second, or Civil Emperor, named Segoun, usually holds his court at Jeddo (or Yeddo), which is the secular capital. An hereditary council of state deliberates on all subjects of government; but before any one of their ordinances becomes a law, it must have the sanction of the Segoun. Like the Chinese, they have a number of tribunals or boards, presided over by the high mandarins, each of which takes

cognizance of a different department of government, — such as commerce (which is almost entirely internal), public works, ceremonies, police, &c. Each of the provinces, or large towns, is under two governors; one of whom resides in the capital and the other in his government. They relieve each other annually; and the one who for the time is resident in his province is obliged to leave his wife and family at Jeddo, as hostages for his good behaviour, and punctual transmission of the taxes as they are collected. In case of war each of these princes or governors is obliged to provide a certain number of soldiers, in a manner similar to the old feudal system of Europe. All their harbours are well fitted for defence, as far as the number of batteries and guns are concerned; and the former appeared much better constructed than those of the Chinese, being built of solid masonry, and placed with much judgment.

But the artillery seemed to be of very light calibre, and in a greatly neglected state. The Japanese have a strange fashion of hanging the fronts of their batteries with cotton can-

vass curtains, generally striped with blue and white; and by way of giving an exaggerated idea of their strength, and thereby, as they suppose, filling the hearts of all foreign intruders with dread, they hang a number of similar curtains among the trees in various directions, where there were neither batteries nor guns, intending them, no doubt, to be mistaken for fortifications. We saw no men-of-war junks, so that I can say nothing about their navy, which, I suppose, is something on a par with that of Loochoo.

Japan appeared to be a thickly-wooded country; and I was informed that the valleys in the interior are exceedingly fertile. Its productions consist of some valuable woods, wheat, silk, flax, hemp, and several metals, of which copper is the most abundant, and exceedingly pure. The Japanese islands also produce some tea and a variety of valuable drugs.

In personal appearance the Japanese are fair, and have a pleasing expression of countenance; and their urbanity and kindness to strangers, as well as to each other, is very

remarkable. During the time we were in their ports, although our decks were daily crowded with them, I never saw the smallest expression of annoyance or bad temper; and whenever anything that was likely to be curious or interesting to them was pointed out to their notice, instead of pushing and crowding to get a sight of it, as the English would do under similar circumstances, each man seemed most anxious to occupy as small a space of room, and to impede his neighbour's view of the object, whatever it might be, as little as possible. In short, they appear to be naturally a kind-hearted and polite people. Dr. Ainslie, in his report to Sir Stamford Raffles, states that the Japanese females mix freely in society, and are under none of the restrictions imposed by the Chinese on the ladies of the "Flowery Land;" but though several of the fair sex are said to have gone on board the "Morrison," not one favoured us with a visit, although hundreds of men were continually on our decks. It may readily be supposed that the numbers coming in and going out of the ship would give an easy opportunity

to any one of them, so disposed, to steal such small articles as he might take a fancy to; but, much to their credit, not a single instance of even an attempt at theft occurred while they were with us. With respect to their religion, I could procure but little information. They have josshouses like the Chinese, and, I believe, worship similar idols; besides whom they also adore a bright mirror, or looking-glass, as the emblem of purity, Divinity, and Almighty power. Every small island on their coast has a building on it, dedicated to some god, to whom the fishermen and coasters in the neighbourhood make periodical offerings, and whom they believe to be able to control the winds and the waves. As well as I could understand my communicative mandarin friend, they pay a certain degree of adoration to their Spiritual Emperor, who is supposed to possess a partly divine, and partly human nature,—and, in fact, he stands much in the same relation to them as the Pope to the Roman Catholics. From all I could gather, I am of opinion that the people generally are very anxious to open

an unrestricted trade with the English nation, but the jealousy of the Government, which is entirely in the hands of a few families, prevents any expression of their wishes being attended to; and spies are so numerous that no one dares to make a bargain or exchange anything with a foreigner, but at the risk of his life, except it be at Nangasaki, through the Government agents, with the Dutch. I have no doubt that if an English man-of-war were sent every few months to visit their harbours, remaining but a short time, and taking care not in any way to annoy or disgust them, that in the course of no long time a friendly intercourse might be established with the mandarins on the coast, which would at last open a most desirable market for our manufactures, and tend to the conversion, improvement, and happiness of these amiable but ignorant idolaters.

Since writing the foregoing remarks on their religion, I find it stated in "Picard's Religious Rites and Ceremonies," that the Roman Catholics not only keep the 5th of February in honour of St. Agatha, but also

dedicate it to the memory of the "Three Martyrs of Japan;" but how, where, or when they suffered he does not mention, and I could procure no information on the subject.

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CHAPTER VII.

SHANGHAE AND POOTOO ISLAND. JULY, AUGUST, AND SEPTEMBER.

A DAY or two previous to our arrival at Woosung we found the brig's bowsprit badly sprung, but we fished it as well as we could at sea; and on examination, after our reaching Shanghae, it proved necessary to get it out, in order to fish it again in a more effectual manner, which we did on the 4th of July. On the 17th, having again made the bowsprit serviceable by means of three iron and two wooden fishes, it was once more hoisted into its place. Nothing worthy of notice occurred from this latter date until the 26th of August, when we dressed the ship and fired a royal salute in honour of the anniversary of Prince Albert's birth-day. On the day following we weighed, and commenced dropping down the river to Woosung,

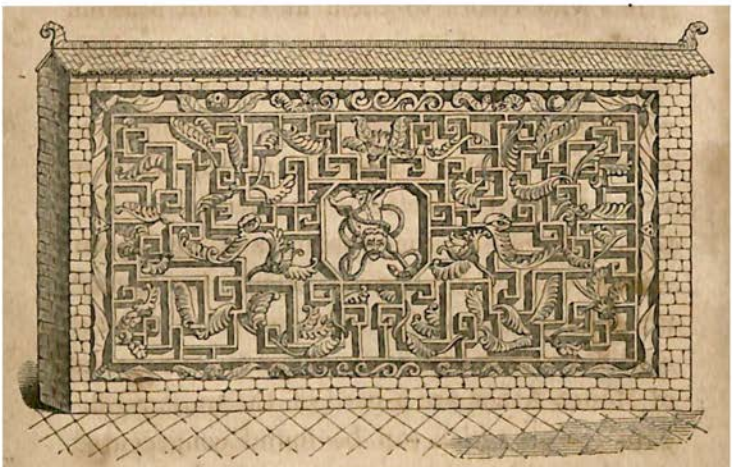
which place we reached on the 30th. On the 2nd of September we received on board the Rev. J. L——, his wife, and eldest son, a boy of about eight years of age, and proceeded immediately to sea. On the 9th we anchored in a bay under the shelter of the east Saddle Island, and the same evening sent a boat on shore to a sandy beach, about two miles from the ship, for the purpose of hauling the sein, but the surf being rather too strong she returned with only two or three fish. The following day the attempt was again made, but with even worse success, although the weather was more favourable; so that there being no inducement to remain here longer, on the 12th we weighed the anchor and steered for Pootoo, passing the Beehive rock at 9.20, and the Fishermen's Islands at 11 A.M.

The morning being particularly fine, we were afforded a capital view of this curious chain of rocks and islets, which appear to have been most strangely disrupted by some volcanic action. We anchored on the same day in Pootoo Roads, and on the following morning our Commander and passengers ob-

tained lodgings in a josshouse or temple fronting the anchorage. From this date until the 21st I was engaged in making such observations on the tides as my health would admit. On that day, being very unwell, the Commander asked me to take up my quarters in the josshouse with him. Accordingly I landed the same evening and found him tolerably well accommodated in a large temple consisting of various buildings and courts; a representation of which I copied from a Chinese chart, and I afterwards obtained possession of the original. The principal apartment, in which we always dined, was spacious and high. The side nearest the sea was open, but could be closed by sliding shutters, and the view from it was extensive and beautiful. Immediately below it were some fine old forest trees; over the branches of which a prospect was obtained, of cultivated gardens and fields; which extended along the ridge of the promontory projecting about a mile into the bay. To the right were several small and large junks lying at anchor, and in the distance beyond, the shadowy undulatory outlines of the Chusan mountains were visible.

To the left were a number of smaller islands, the various passages between which spread like a map before our view, and were crowded with numberless fishing-boats of strange construction and uncouth rig. The furniture of this room consisted of a large table in the middle, most beautifully polished or varnished, several wooden seated chairs with high backs, two or three side-boards, and a number of small tables called teapoys, on which to place a cup and saucer or plate by the side of any one's chair who was too sick or too lazy to draw to the large table. In the centre of the wall facing the sea a board was elevated and fixed close to the roof, on which was an inscription, in gilt letters, on a ground formed of numerous small pieces of mother-of-pearl stuck into some black and hard composition. The words might be rendered into English thus:. "Prospect of the wide Sea and distant Hills." In the same part of the building on the ground-floor also were two bedrooms, one of which was occupied by Mr. and Mrs. L., and the other by myself, whilst the Commander had a sleeping-room in the story above. The

whole of the temple must have covered above an acre and a half of ground; and the courts, passages, and sleeping apartments of the monks, together with the numerous chapels, each provided with one or more idols, formed such a mass of buildings that a stranger was almost certain to lose his way among their various intricacies. In the centre of one of



Stone Screen in a Temple at Pootoo.

the courts was an elegant and elaborately carved open worked screen, cut out of stone, with an extraordinary monster in the middle

of it representing a crocodile with a human face in conflict with a large snake, whose folds were entwined round him. The wing of the building opposite to that which we inhabited contained a corresponding set of rooms, and all these temples are fitted up with various cabins, saloons, and cooking-places, for the accommodation of the immense number of pilgrims who resort to them at certain seasons of the year, and who regulate their pecuniary offerings to Bhud, or Fo, according to the comfort and convenience of the quarters provided for them. Pootoo is to the Chinese devotees what Loretto is to the Roman Catholics, Mecca to the Mahometans, or Mount Athos to the Greeks, of which last-named place Picart says: "If the report of several credible writers can be depended on, the monks of Mount Athos are a herd of the most profligate rascals which can be found congregated together within the precincts of Christianity." And as far as I could learn, the nest of drones who fatten on the ignorance and superstition of their countrymen among the temples and

woods of Pootoo are not a whit behind them in these claims to sanctity and veneration, although the former "call themselves Christians," and consider the latter as the servants of the devil. In the afternoon of the 21st I proceeded to visit two temples about a mile and a half distant from our temporary abode; they were situated on a projecting point of land, with a sandy bay on either side, and were sacred to "Tsuiquam," the Chinese Neptune.

The road lay, first, over a level beach, then through a beautiful lane, hedged on each side with neat fences of bamboo of the small-leaved kind, while large old trees of various sorts spread their branches over head, and formed a richly variegated and umbrageous canopy.

Suddenly I emerged from their dark shadow, and was gratified by an extensive view of the adjacent sea. Studded with numerous islands, the nearest of which displayed a profuse and verdant foliage, while the more distant faded from the sight like blue clouds in the horizon.

As I advanced the road began to descend, and I again found myself between green bam-

boo hedges, and arrived at length at an ancient gateway, on each side of which were some curious specimens of carved work in high relief. Passing through this I reached the court in front of the largest temple, and as the day was closing I made the best of my way towards a smaller one, about four hundred yards distant, and which was perched on the extremity of the promontory. I found it in a most dilapidated state, and much more resembling an old barn than a sacred temple. The inside was very dark, for it only received light from the doorway and two small circular holes, intended for windows. The door, if there ever had been one, had long since disappeared, and the solitary idol it contained seemed crumbling to decay, being as much neglected as the broken old roof which covered it; no incense sticks were burning on his altar, and from the damp and miserable condition of the place I should suppose that some years had elapsed since his godship had been honoured with an offering. Outside, and immediately opposite the doorway, was one of those curious and very ancient iron censers,

which are found in so many places in China, but its rusty appearance made it evident that it was a very long time since it was last acquainted with either fire or incense. As darkness was fast approaching I had but little time to look round, but determining, if my health permitted, to visit the place again, I made my way homewards as soon as I could.

September 22nd. Early in the morning before breakfast, I again reached the old temple and took several sketches of the buildings; I afterwards entered the larger josshouse, called Tse-choo-cum, and found that although it contained many apartments, they were almost deserted; one solitary incense stick was burning alone, before an altar on which a dingy joss was reposing amid a mass of cobwebs and dust.

Four or five stupid-looking priests were prowling about the place; who spent their time in cultivating a garden, smoking opium, and gambling.

In the afternoon the Commander and our passengers went on board the sloop, to attend the exercising of the crew at firing at a target;

but I remained on shore; and in order to obtain an unobstructed view of the firing, I had myself carried in a sedan chair to the summit of a hill a few hundred yards distant from our lodgings, where a small building with stone seats in it had been erected by a pious pilgrim named Lung-Tswen, for the accommodation of the public. One target for the shot practice had been fixed on a projecting rock, which lay in a direct line between the brig and our lodgings; another for shell firing at a longer range was placed on the eastern point of the bay. After several shots had been sent in the direction of the first-named mark, I perceived a number of the priests running up the hill towards the place where I was sitting. On reaching me, they all commenced talking at once, and pointing to the roof of the buildings; but as it was impossible for me to comprehend the meaning, either of their speeches or gestures, I returned with them to find out what was the matter. When I reached the josshouse I discovered that two of the shots had struck the temple; one of which having passed through an upper room, or chapel,

tearing a curtain which was suspended before one of the josses, and giving his godship a very close shave, had fallen into a court in the rear of the buildings, where it lay surrounded by about twenty priests; who with uplifted hands and wondering countenances, were contemplating it with looks of horror, as if still expecting it would explode and destroy them. The other shot, after knocking away a part of the roof, and sending the tiles flying in all directions, had struck a stone in the hill at the back of the premises, and splintering into several pieces, scattered itself far and wide. Having no means of communicating with the ship, we were obliged to take our chance of any more such unwelcome visitors; hoping that the marksmen on board, if they could not hit the target, would at least point high enough for the shot to pass over the roof of the temple. About half a dozen more shots were fired towards us without any accident, and then we had the satisfaction of seeing that those on board had turned their attention to the other and more distant target; at which they commenced throwing shells with tolerable

precision. About 1 P.M. the party returned from the ship, and having taken lunch, proceeded in the cutter to examine the opposite side of the bay; but my ill health not allowing me to accompany them, I took a short walk for the purpose of making some sketches and copies of inscriptions; particularly of one which was cut into the sides of an upright mass of granite, projecting from the slope of a hill near our residence. The characters were large, deep, and painted black; and the surface of the stone being of a light grey colour, rendered them so plainly visible at a considerable distance, as to have attracted my attention and curiosity when I first perceived them from the ship's deck, shortly after coming to an anchor.

CHAPTER VIII.

POOTOO. SEPTEMBER 23.

THE following day, Sunday, Sept. 23rd, all the party except myself went on board the brig to attend divine service, and returning 2 P.M., they proceeded as yesterday to make an excursion in one of the ship's boats. In the meantime I went, in company with one of the young midshipmen belonging to the vessel, to examine the largest temple on the island, which was situated about two miles distant from our lodgings. I found great difficulty in ascending the hill, but my anxiety to see as much as possible of an island so little known and so seldom visited, urged me forward, and the view from the summit amply repaid the trouble. I found that from this place the road gradually descended by a well-paved pathway towards an extensive and beautiful valley, smiling in all the luxuriance of well-cultivated

gardens and rich fields of ripe and undulating grain, which were surrounded by high hills, whose bare rocky heads were shining in the sun above the thick foliage of the ancient forest trees and verdant underwood with which their sides were clothed. Advancing further, we came to a small stone altar on the right-

Altar and Inscriptions at the Side of the Road from the Landing-place to the Grand Temple. Pootoo Island.

hand side of the road. It was about eight feet in height, and was overshadowed by several graceful trees; in its front was a cir-

cular hollow, containing a small gilded joss, with a number of incense sticks burning before it. Above was an upright granite slab, with two inscriptions on it, the upper one being in curious and very ancient characters, which are known only by a few of the oldest priests. The lower one is in the modern Chinese, and I was afterwards favoured with a translation of it by a gentleman attached to the British Consulate at Shanghae. Following the road, we passed under a kind of triumphal arch, formed of two upright posts of granite supporting a large slab of the same kind of stone, on which was a long inscription, and through this we entered the precincts of the grand temple. This may be called the metropolitan cathedral of the Budhists of China, and resembles a small village. It covers a considerable extent of ground, and consists of no less than forty-one separate buildings, each containing several images of Budha in a variety of postures. There are also others of Fenhow, the Queen of Heaven, who is represented with sixteen arms, each hand of which holds some implement connected with husbandry, manu-

factures, or war. In the principal building is a gigantic image of the god Quang-jin; and near him is an enormous bell, of a very sweet tone, suspended from the rafters of the roof, having its lower edge curiously scolloped, and its outer surface entirely covered with inscriptions and ornaments in high relief. As a companion to this large instrument of sound, a big-bellied drum, with heads ten feet in diameter, is fixed on the opposite side on cross beams about twelve feet from the ground. Lakes of water are interspersed among the courts and buildings of this temple, and these are crossed by neatly-constructed bridges. One of these lakes is thickly covered with the sacred lotus, or water-lily (*Nymphea lotus*), the delicate blossoms of which added greatly to the beauty of the scene. After examining everything we could find worth seeing, we discovered a row of shops within the walls, which were not only furnished with all kinds of eatables for the supply of the monks and priests, but contained quite a Roman Catholic collection of relics, charms, amulets, and rosaries. The Chinese rosary, or chaplet, con-

sists of one hundred beads, of moderate size, generally black, and eight others either considerably larger or distinguished by a difference in colour; and where the Romanists attach to their rosaries a cross, the Chinese affix to theirs one very large bead shaped like an egg, or else a tassel formed of several bunches of very small ones; and I saw a few with the egg and tassel both suspended, the one underneath the other.—While they pass these rosaries through their fingers, they keep mumbling the words "Na-mo-a-mi-too-Foo," giving a kind of howl when they come to the larger beads, with about as much devotion and benefit to their souls as others nearer home derive from their vain repetitions of prayers, not better understood or felt than those of the poor ignorant idolaters of China. After making a few purchases at these shops, we returned to dinner at about six in the evening.

On the 24th two parties were formed, who started in different directions, having agreed to meet again during the day and take a lunch together. One of these parties, accompanied by our reverend passenger, proceeded to the

easternmost part of the island; some of the officers having carried their guns with them, with the intention of shooting wild pigeons, which were known to be numerous in the woods. The second party, whom I accompanied, set out about two hours later than the former, to visit some of the more distant temples towards the north-eastward; and as my ill health did not permit me to walk far, I was carried in a rather rough and uncomfortable kind of sedan chair by Chinese coolies or bearers. Passing through the grand temple already described, and ascending a hill at the back of it, after a journey of about two miles, we reached the second temple, as it is called, which is but little inferior to the first one in size, extent, or the number of its buildings and lakes of water; and as in the former, we here also found a number of shops, among others, that of an apothecary, which we entered, and examined many of his drugs, consisting principally of different kinds of roots cut into very thin slices; he showed us also several varieties of nuts which all appeared to possess strong astringent properties. After rambling about

for some time among the various buildings, and examining several gigantic josses, we at length found ourselves in a Chinese manufactory of gods and goddesses, the images being of various sizes, and some of them in a half-finished state, while others were only just commenced. Numerous workmen were engaged in the various stages of their construction.

The skeletons or rudiments of these images were coarsely formed of wood, with rough joints at the shoulders, elbows, fingers, knees, &c. These were covered with well-tempered clay; and the accuracy, rapidity, and ease, with which the workmen moulded this material into the forms of the various muscles of the human body, was truly astonishing; not only displaying their manual dexterity, but leading one to imagine that they must be highly skilled in this department of the science of anatomy. In the countenances of two little statues about eighteen inches high, the passions of love and anger were portrayed to the life, although the clay of which they were formed was still quite moist. When their work is nearly dry

these godmakers cover it over with a varnish that prevents its cracking, and they continue to do so with several coats in succession, as fast as the preceding one becomes nearly hardened. These josses are afterwards smoothed over by means of various tools made of hard bone, ivory, or steel, and then are painted or gilt more or less expensively, as suits the taste of the manufacturers or the finances of the priests, their employers. Just as we were about to leave this temple our other party of excursionists joined us, and together with them we at once proceeded to visit a monastery very romantically situated at about a mile distant. This we soon reached, and finding near it two or three fine shaddock trees, we plucked several of the delicious fruit, after paying a trifle to the monks for permission to do so. These monks soon provided us with some tea, and the sporting party and ourselves unpacking our baskets, we sat down in one of the rooms and made a hearty lunch on their contents. We afterwards proceeded to examine their joss temple, kitchen, and

refectory, and shortly after took leave of them with many chin-chins.

The two parties now divided again; my sporting messmates with our reverend friend L—— extending their rambles further towards the eastward, while we the invalids returned home, having arranged that we were not to wait dinner for them, nor were we to expect them until late in the evening. Our road now lay over a beautiful level sandy beach, on which a heavy surf was running, and our chair-bearers being by this time rather tired, frequently set us down in order to rest themselves; while we amused ourselves by watching the angry seas that came thundering towards us as if to devour us; and then suddenly broke harmlessly on the sand almost close to our feet, gradually receding again into the deep blue waters of the bay. We reached our lodgings about five o'clock, and after dinner the Commander and myself got some targets erected, and amused ourselves with rifle and pistol shooting until dark. We now began to expect the return of the other party; but we heard no news of them until

late, when two of the officers returned, bringing the dreadful intelligence that our valued and reverend friend L—— was drowned. It seemed that while returning along the same beach we had traversed only a few hours before, he was imprudently induced to bathe in those very rollers whose silvery foam we had so much admired; but the drawback having more power than he had strength to contend against, he was hurried out to sea and buried beneath the waves. Thus a sad end was put to our exploring at Pootoo; and as there did not appear to be the remotest chance of recovering the body of our lost friend, we removed the next morning on board the ship, and commenced our melancholy return to Shanghae, where we landed the bereaved and disconsolate widow and her little boy, on the afternoon of the 28th.

On the 6th of October I took an excursion to visit a pagoda about twelve miles up the river, above Shanghae. The windings of this fine stream are in several places very picturesque, and it is navigable for large junks for many miles inland, communicating with Sow-

chow, Nankin, and a number of other cities of consequence. I found the pagoda in much better condition than the one at Ningpo, consisting of eight stories, each of them about fifteen feet in height, making, with the dome and ball, its total elevation 150 feet. Its shape is octagonal, and each story is provided with a covered verandah, having a projecting roof, at the corners of which are hung small bells of different tones; and as there are sixty-four of them, which are kept in almost constant motion by the wind, the sound they produce is exceedingly pleasing, greatly resembling the wild melody of the Eolian harp.

From all the information I could obtain from a Chinese map, as well as from the observations I had made at different times during my rambles, I felt convinced that there was a passage by water quite round the walls of the city; and although some of the English residents doubted it, and the Chinese watermen positively denied it, I determined to attempt the circumnavigation of the place. Accordingly on the 20th, after many inquiries, I discovered a tolerably

intelligent boatman, and started in his sampan from the eastern angle of the city wall. We proceeded up a creek about eight feet wide, and after various turnings and windings, through some places not much wider than the boat, and so arched over by high rushes that we seemed to be passing through a tunnel; shoving the sampan through the mud, frequently in less water than she drew, after four hours' navigation we emerged again into the river at the N. W. angle of the city wall; and dropping down with the ebb tide reached the ship about sunset.

On the 23rd we weighed anchor from Shanghae for the last time; and on the 25th took a final leave of the waters of the Yang-tse-Kiang. On the 26th we worked into Tinghae harbour at Chusan, through a narrow passage known by the name of Hell's Gates: we received a number of invalids from Her Majesty's brig "Arab." Sailed again on the 28th, and anchored in Hong-kong harbour on the 31st. Shortly after which I was sent to the hospital suffering severely from ague, and

from thence was invalided in the January following; and in due time had the pleasure of returning to my native country, after an absence of more than four years.

THE END.

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